

سكنا من الاصل

THE TIMES

Shopping around for Christmas: Sheila Black, page 7

Chancellor sees no recovery before 1976

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Heath, Leader of the Opposition, made gloomy prognostications on the economy in debate in the Commons last night. Mr Healey said the outlook darkened even since the

November Budget. He did not think the tide would turn before the end of next year. Mr Heath said the country stood on the brink of hyperinflation. The normal mechanisms of production, finance and saving had collapsed.

Mr Heath fears catastrophe

Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Heath, Leader of the Opposition, made gloomy prognostications on the economy in debate in the Commons last night. Mr Healey said the outlook darkened even since the

in the five weeks since the Budget debate. The world was in a recession and the question was whether it would move from a recession into a slump. It appeared possible that world output and trade might not grow at all next year and that recovery would be postponed until 1976.

normal mechanisms of production, finance and saving. Mr Heath said the country stood on the brink of hyperinflation. The normal mechanisms of production, finance and saving had collapsed.

Soviet Union renounces 'trade for emigration'

Moscow, Dec 18.—The Soviet Union today renounced any trade agreement with the United States that binds Moscow to ease emigration.

The Soviet Union "flatly rejected as unacceptable... attempts to interfere in internal affairs that are entirely the concern of the Soviet state and no one else."

Mr Mellish withdraws resignation threat after clash on backbench defence revolt

By David Wood
Political Editor

Mr Robert Mellish, government chief whip and a member of the Cabinet since the election, last night withdrew a letter of resignation which he sent to the Prime Minister on Tuesday night.

There would be no disciplinary sanctions. Mr Mellish, who became Labour Chief Whip in 1969 and apart from a short interval as Minister of Public Buildings and Works, has continued in the exacting post ever since.

Mr Harrison said it was not merely the backbench revolt on Monday. There were new Labour MPs who had been in the House only a few weeks, who owed their seats to the Labour Party, but who could not support a Labour Government in the lobbies on a three-line whip.



Mr Mellish has always felt that three-line whips should be strictly obeyed.

Mr Harrison said it was not merely the backbench revolt on Monday. There were new Labour MPs who had been in the House only a few weeks, who owed their seats to the Labour Party, but who could not support a Labour Government in the lobbies on a three-line whip.

OECD warns West of 'ugly rout'

Peter Jay
Economics Editor

Dec. 18

The political survival of the western world, according to the formula of progress democracy, hangs in the balance with the scales weighing towards failure.

of North America, Western Europe, Japan and Australasia, the commentary of the international team of economists in the Economic Outlook provides the most authoritative available synopsis of world economic trends.

entailing a larger margin of unused resources than has been seen in the postwar period, with unemployment rising throughout the period and into 1976.

£85m rescue move for Crown Agents

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

An £85m rescue operation is being mounted by the Government to safeguard the banking operations of the Crown Agents organization, whose proud boast for more than a hundred years has been that it makes no call on public funds.

Mr Whitlam approves of Britain staying in

From Roger Berthoud
Brussels, Dec 18

Mr Whitlam, the Prime Minister of Australia, today finally buried the idea lingering among British anti-market forces that his country would welcome Britain's withdrawal from the EEC.

Government would regret a British decision to leave the EEC. "It is about time that all this shilly-shallying was ended," he said.

Severe sentences for Bordeaux wine fraud reflect damage to the trade

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Dec 18

Pierre Bert, the central figure in the Bordeaux wine fraud case, was today sentenced to the maximum penalty allowed by French law, a year's imprisonment and a fine of 27,000 francs (about £2,500).

Indeed, he concluded, the policy statement which preceded his press conference with a reference to European economic and political integration as "one of the great historical forward movements of this century".

British Leyland advisory firm named

Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, announced last night the membership of the advisory firm to advise the Government on the British Leyland's situation.

Petrol pump closures

Thousands of petrol stations are likely to be shut today because many have been supplied with fuel at the increased price but are not allowed to charge the new retail price until tomorrow.

US refused to sit on aid committee

The United States has refused to sit on a new United Nations committee for distributing aid, decided on at a special General Assembly session earlier this year.

Pickets plea rejected

Mr Wilson refused to intervene in the case of the jailed Shrewsbury pickets when a TUC delegation, led by Mr Len Murray, the general secretary, called on him yesterday to urge him to secure their release by Christmas.

Raid into Lebanon

Israeli troops raided a village six miles inside Lebanon yesterday. They blew up houses which they said were used by terrorists and took some prisoners.

Sugar plan starts

The EEC scheme to provide cheap sugar for Britain got under way last night when the European Community approved imports of 102,000 tons.

Motorail fares

British Rail has asked the Price Commission to allow a 30 per cent increase in Motorail fares next year.

Appeal Court lifts book restriction

A girl aged 14 may be taken out of Britain in the next 48 hours to prevent her from knowing that her father is described in a book to be published next week as "depraved".

ristol bomb blasts hurt 17

Seventeen people were hurt, seriously, when two bombs exploded in the centre of Bristol last night. Hundreds were treated from flats, restaurants and a ballroom after they received warnings of further explosions.

Appeal Court lifts book restriction

A girl aged 14 may be taken out of Britain in the next 48 hours to prevent her from knowing that her father is described in a book to be published next week as "depraved".

Motorail fares

British Rail has asked the Price Commission to allow a 30 per cent increase in Motorail fares next year.

Appeal Court lifts book restriction

A girl aged 14 may be taken out of Britain in the next 48 hours to prevent her from knowing that her father is described in a book to be published next week as "depraved".

Motorail fares

British Rail has asked the Price Commission to allow a 30 per cent increase in Motorail fares next year.

Appeal Court lifts book restriction

A girl aged 14 may be taken out of Britain in the next 48 hours to prevent her from knowing that her father is described in a book to be published next week as "depraved".

Motorail fares

British Rail has asked the Price Commission to allow a 30 per cent increase in Motorail fares next year.

Seas selling prices

100 lbs. of...	100 lbs. of...
100 lbs. of...	100 lbs. of...

Home News

Home News	2-4
European News	5
Overseas News	5-7
Appointments	16
Arts	16
Books	8
Business	17-23

Chess

Chess	2
Motoring	16
Obituary	26
Parliament	14
Sale Room	16
Science	16
Snow Report	18

Letters

Letters	15
TV & Radio	12, 13
Theatre etc	9
25 Years Ago	16
Universities	16
Weather	2
Wills	16

Sport

Sport	12, 13
TV & Radio	12, 13
Theatre etc	9
25 Years Ago	16
Universities	16
Weather	2
Wills	16

Features

Features	7 and 14
Books	8
Michael Ratcliffe on 'The Secret Life of Plants'	Paul Theroux on short stories by V. S. Pritchett and Roald Dahl
Sport	pages 12 and 13
Racing	Sponsors' names allowed in big race titles; Folkestone and Southwell programmes; John Woodcock reports England's reaction to Test defeat.
Business news	pages 17-23
Stock market	Both equities and gilts held up well yesterday. The FT index added 1.9 higher at 161.1.
Peter Jay Thursday column	Disinflation without tears—how to stop prices rising without bankruptcies and unemployment, and how doomsday may be postponed.

Gulf Superflights

To Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Doha, Dhahran, Dubai, Muscat and Kuwait. The only direct services to all these cities. Details from your travel agent.

British Airways

We'll take more care of you.

HOME NEWS

Teachers and councils to hold discussions on home-loan policy

By Tim Devlin Education Correspondent
A national policy under which local education authorities could give far more help to teachers to find places to live...

Department to study discipline in schools

By Our Education Correspondent
The Department of Education and Science will discuss discipline in schools with local authority associations and teachers' unions early in the new year...



Three of the 75 gaming staff, who say they have been dismissed for union activity took their case to the Commons yesterday. From left, Ann Sweetland, Jill Stewart and Elaine Carfrae (Diary, page 14).

Man who put wife in freezer gets 10 years

A husband sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for killing his wife and hiding her body in their deep freezer told medical experts that he had tried to combat her infidelity by lavish entertainment from the proceeds of armed bank raids...

Don urges end to five-year plans by universities

Our Education Correspondent
Universities were urged yesterday to drop their system of five-year planning. Professor William Wallace, president of the Association of University Teachers, said the social administrative cost was heavy...

Woman's 73-hour week for £4.08

By Raymond Perman
Exploitation of women home-workers is exposed in a report published today. Some worked for a fraction of the statutory minimum pay. One worked a 73-hour week for £4.08 making leather notecases.

£55,000 bill for parish after access suit defeat

A legal battle over right of way to a tiny village church at Iken, Suffolk, ended in the Court of Appeal in London yesterday with a second defeat for the church authorities. Although they face a £55,000 bill for costs they are still banned from access by vehicles to the front doors of their own church.

Patient's death a lesson to hoaxers, coroner says

From Our Correspondent Northampton
A hoax bomb call to a hospital, which led to the removal of more than 400 patients, hastened the death of a dying woman, it was stated at an inquest at Northampton yesterday.

Universities back dons' pay claim

The Association of University Teachers, backed by the university authorities, has asked the Government for an 18 per cent salary rise across the board on top of the Phase Three settlement of 7 per cent it got last October. If granted it would add £20m to the £11m October settlement.

Murder remand

A boy, aged 16, was remanded in custody until Monday at Liverpool Juvenile Court yesterday, charged with the murder of Miss Helen Nimmo Bryce, aged 81, of Dorchester Park, Netherby, Liverpool.

£35,000 stolen

Two raiders yesterday escaped with £35,000 in cash when they rammed a stolen van into the side of a car carrying the Christmas taking of a Co-operative society store at Long Eaton, Derbyshire.

Food chief gets libel damages

Mr Garry Weston, chairman of Associated British Foods, is to receive substantial damages for articles in August, 1973, in The Sun and the News of the World about his views on rising food prices.

Engineers defend motorway cost rise

The consulting engineers named in the Commons last week in allegations of possible overcharging on an M5 motorway contract said yesterday that the 4 per cent rise in price between tender and completion was unusually small.

£2 increase in Automobile Association fee

The Automobile Association member's annual subscription will increase from £5.50 to £7.50, a rise of 36 per cent, from next April, the association said yesterday. It said steeply rising costs and inflation were the reason.

Fine for credit card offences

James George Denny, aged 25, a building site supervisor who admitted stealing an Access card when it was through the letter box of his house at Archer Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire addressed to a former occupant, also pleaded guilty yesterday to 16 charges of using the card to obtain goods and cash worth £256.

Correction

Baron Nugent of Clonlost is not a peer as stated in The Times of December 7. The title is of Austrian origin and confirmation for its use in this country was given by Edward VII in 1908.

Caroline has a paint box in her head

Advertisement for RNIB (Royal National Institute for the Blind) featuring a woman and text about color blindness and support services.

Poll suggests backing for more 'teeth' in race laws

By Peter Evans Home Affairs Correspondent
Although some people think Britain has been harmed by the arrival of Commonwealth immigrants, many more believe that, once here, they should be treated as white people.

Hostaform on target

Large advertisement for Hostaform plastics, featuring images of air rifles and a coupon for more information.

HOME NEWS

Moves for by-election may begin soon in Mr Stonehouse's seat

By Penny Symon The disappearance of Mr John Stonehouse, aged 49, Labour MP for Walsall, North, a month ago in Miami, has raised an interesting constitutional point for the authorities of the House of Commons.

Stonehouse phone-tap ordered by Mr Wilson

By Christopher Walker During autumn, 1969, Mr Wilson gave instructions for the telephone of Mr John Stonehouse, then Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, to be tapped, and for him to be "screened" thoroughly by security services.



Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, with Lord Shinwell during a House of Commons reception yesterday.

Mr Foot calls truce to get defence facts

By George Clark The clash over arms spending which resulted in 54 Labour backbenchers voting against the Government's defence programme in the Commons on Monday had its sequel at yesterday's meeting of Labour's national executive.

Rising costs reduce egg production

By Our Agricultural Correspondent The average British chicken laid fewer eggs this year than in 1973, the Ministry of Agriculture said yesterday.

Cash change delays oil survey

By Pearce Wright Science Correspondent Important geological investigations in the North Sea are being delayed because of changes in the support of research and development from government funds.

New council to cut number of top jobs

From a Staff Reporter In reply to criticism that the salaries to be paid by the new Strathclyde regional council are too high, Mr Geoffrey Shaw, convener of the council, said yesterday that when the authority comes into power in May £170,000 a year will be saved in the salaries of senior staff.

University and firm in joint drug project

From Ronald Faux Edinburgh A £7m research centre for the commercial development of new drug and medical treatments is to be built at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh.

'dignity rather than charity' says Colin Morris



"The test of a truly civilised society is how it treats those least able to defend themselves in the rat race, especially the aged. This world is better than it might have been because they have made it so. At the very least they have earned peace after the struggles of life, dignity rather than charity and a place of honour amongst us—precisely the things Methodist Homes for the Aged gives them.

Old people's homes get £85,000 fire protection

Fire safety systems costing more than £85,000 are to be installed immediately in all Nottinghamshire County Council's 24 old people's homes, the council announced yesterday.

Mr Wilson declines to intercede for pickets

By Our Labour Staff A combined delegation from the TUC and the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party will see the Home Secretary today and ask him to recommend the Queen to use her prerogative to free the Shrewsbury pickets in time for Christmas.

Lack of copies of new rules frustrate divers

From Arthur Osman Birmingham The conference of the new Association of British Professional Divers in Birmingham yesterday foundered somewhat because of a shortage of copies of government safety regulations due to printing difficulties.

Reform of laws on prostitution, morals and vagrancy urged

By Marcel Berlins Legal Correspondent Proposals for a thorough reform of the laws on prostitution, morals and vagrancy are made in two working papers published yesterday.

Methodist Homes for the Aged

Methodist Homes for the Aged is a voluntary organization providing care for the elderly. It has a long history and is well-known for its commitment to the aged.

MP resigns from Bow Group

Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for Flint West, said yesterday that he had resigned from the Bow Group because of editorial criticism of Mr Heath.

Explosion trial nears conclusion

A jury at Oxford Crown Court will be asked to consider verdicts today in the case of four young men who have pleaded not guilty to charges including recklessly endangering life by planting explosives.

18 pc pay rise in water service

A wage settlement, bringing rises of 18 per cent, was agreed yesterday for the 35,000 manual water service employees in England and Wales.

Ferry reprieved

British Rail is postponing the proposed closure of the Heysham-Belfast car and passenger ferry service from February 1 to April 6, after recommendations by the area transport users' consultative committee.

From Riches to Rags?

Not quite—but death and disease reduce many young families to poverty overnight. YOU CAN HELP MITIGATE THEIR SUFFERING by sending donations to PCAC.

Richard Dimbleby Cancer Fund

This Fund finances cancer research at the Richard Dimbleby Laboratory, St Thomas' Hospital, London. The Trustees are grateful for donations and legacies to support the work.

Advertisement for 'Community Service Award' by Communicator. It features a cartoon dog and text encouraging people to win an award for their community service. The text says: 'Everyone who delivers newspapers can win a Community Service Award'.

WEST EUROPE

Three shot dead in hunt for outlawed Basque separatists

From Our Correspondent Madrid, Dec 18 The hunt for Basque activists resulted in three killings in one night and bombs wrecking shops in three Basque towns, according to reports in Madrid today.

The polarization of political forces seemed more obvious in Madrid today. Right-wing organizations prepared demonstrations for Friday, the first anniversary of the assassination of Admiral Luis Carrero Blanco, the Prime Minister.

Triumph for M Chirac in censure debate

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Dec 18 The motion of censure against the Government's policy, the first since it came to power, was lost early today by a wide margin, as expected.



Commonwealth preference: Mr Whitlam, the Australian Prime Minister, says in Brussels that he sees no advantage in Britain leaving the EEC.

OVERSEAS

Smith party hears of settlement plans

From Michael Knipe Salisbury, Dec 18 The parliamentary caucus of the ruling Rhodesian Front party was briefed today by Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, on the attempt to reach a constitutional settlement.

NZ economist to face trial

Wellington, Dec 18.—A judge today ordered Dr William Ball Sutch, a leading New Zealand economist, to stand trial on a charge of a breach of the Official Secrets Act.

Peking zoo gets two rhinos

From Our Own Correspondent Peking, Dec 18 Mr Edward Youde, the British Ambassador, today handed over to the Peking zoo two young white rhinoceroses which have been sent as a gift from the London Zoo.

Parliamentary pay rise debate ignored

Ottawa, Dec 17.—A parliamentary debate on a 50 per cent pay rise for Canadian MPs was adjourned after 90 minutes today for lack of a quorum.—Reuter.

British firms encouraged to improve African wages

By John Groser The Government has decided that it is right for British companies with holdings or subsidiaries in South Africa to give evidence in public that they are treating their African employees properly.

2 years' jail or six bank robberies

From Our Correspondent Berlin, Dec 18 Frau Ingrid Siepmann aged 47, was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment by a West Berlin court today on six charges of bank robbery and of unauthorized possession of arms.

West Berlin to negotiate with E Germany

From Our Correspondent Berlin, Dec 18 The West Berlin Senate today, informed the East German Government that it was prepared to negotiate on proposals made by East Germany last week.

Concern over Italian plot inquiry

From Peter Nichols Rome, Dec 18 The fears expressed in Padua are that the transfer to Rome of these inquiries will seriously hold up the pace of the investigation.

Cape Verde Islands to get independence next year

Lisbon, Dec 18.—Portugal will grant independence to the Cape Verde Islands on July 5 next year, Dr Antonio de Almeida Santos, the Overseas Territories Minister, announced in Lisbon today.

Left-wing rift perplexes many Communists

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, Dec 18 A third of France's working-class Communist voters do not understand why the party leadership is quarrelling with the Socialists, according to a Public Opinion poll published in L'Aurore today.

EEC begins scheme for cheap sugar

From Our Own Correspondent Brussels, Dec 18 The European Commission's scheme to provide the British housewife with cheap sugar got going tonight, when the Commission approved tenders from 16 traders to import 102,000 tons of raw sugar from the world market.

Swedes board Soviet ship in restricted waters

From Our Correspondent Stockholm, Dec 18 Swedish officials were today questioning the captain of a Russian cargo ship who, they said, set anchor in restricted waters near Stockholm without asking for permission.

Swedes board Soviet ship in restricted waters

From Our Correspondent Stockholm, Dec 18 Swedish officials were today questioning the captain of a Russian cargo ship who, they said, set anchor in restricted waters near Stockholm without asking for permission.

Swedes board Soviet ship in restricted waters

From Our Correspondent Stockholm, Dec 18 Swedish officials were today questioning the captain of a Russian cargo ship who, they said, set anchor in restricted waters near Stockholm without asking for permission.

Advertisement for White Horse Fine Old Scotch Whisky. Features a large image of a bottle and the text: 'Take home a White Horse this Christmas. FINE OLD SCOTCH WHISKY'.

Portugal is seeking a summit conference with the three liberation movement leaders to fix the composition of the transitional government, and to decide on further steps leading to independence.—Reuter.

Swedes board Soviet ship in restricted waters

From Our Correspondent Stockholm, Dec 18 Swedish officials were today questioning the captain of a Russian cargo ship who, they said, set anchor in restricted waters near Stockholm without asking for permission.

Swedes board Soviet ship in restricted waters

From Our Correspondent Stockholm, Dec 18 Swedish officials were today questioning the captain of a Russian cargo ship who, they said, set anchor in restricted waters near Stockholm without asking for permission.

Large advertisement for Rank Hotels. Text: 'We're on a nice little money-saving number'. Includes phone number 01-262 2893 and list of hotels in London, Paris, Brussels, Sardinia, Tenerife, Italy, Cairngorms, Bristol, Maidstone, Gateshead, Leeds and Swindon.

OVERSEAS

More Nixon men expected to resign as President Ford moulds his Cabinet into shape

From Patrick Brogan Washington, Dec 18 Mr Claude Brinegar, the Secretary for Transportation, announced his resignation from the Administration today. He will probably be succeeded by Mr John Robson, a lawyer from Chicago who was once general counsel to the department, and who is a close friend of Mr Donald Rumsfeld.

officers expected to depart soon are Mr Casper Weinberger, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Mr Frederick Dent, Secretary of Commerce, Mr Peter Brennan, Secretary of Labour, and Mr Earl Butz, Secretary of Agriculture.

Mr William Simon, Secretary of the Treasury, has confided to his friends that he does not know whether he will survive the reshuffle. This would leave Dr Henry Kissinger at the State Department and Dr James Schlesinger at the Pentagon with, perhaps, Mr Rogers Morton safe at the Department of the Interior. It remains possible, however, that Mr Morton might, like Mr Lynn, be promoted into the White House.



Mrs Charlotte Lange, of California, with her only living sextuplet. Last year she lost quadruplets.

Treason inquiry arouses fears for free speech in Israel

From Eric Marsden Jerusalem, Dec 18 Israel's Ministry of Justice is investigating alleged activities in support of the Palestine Liberation Organization by a chemistry professor of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, so that the Attorney General can decide whether there is evidence to establish that he has committed treason.

kind they use to lock up Arab suspects. The Shalak affair has caused a furor in academic and political circles. It has to be seen in the light of the emotional reaction to the Rabin summit and United Nations recognition of the PLO, which has convinced the mass of Israelis that they are again faced with a fight for survival.

Professor Rubinstein points out that the Minister of Interior had the power to rescind the citizenship of a person who had committed a deed of loyalty to the state of Israel but had not used this authority for reasons best known to himself. He also attacked Hebrew University authority for allowing Professor Shalak to keep his post, asserting academic freedom was unlimited and could not be pro-

The subject of the investigation is Professor Israel Shalak, chairman of the Israel League for Human and Civil Rights, which frequently complains of repression of Arabs and ill-treatment of prisoners in the occupied areas.

Public opinion is heavily against the professor, although few Israelis were aware of his activities until recently. Yet there is a troubled minority particularly of students and lecturers, which regards the Government investigation as the first erosion of the cherished Israeli tradition of free speech, academic freedom and the right to fight for unpopular causes.

Mr Uri Avneri has denounced Professor Shalak's "horror propaganda" as "liable to servile ammunition in the hands of those who aspire to destroy the state". Professor Shalak is repentant. He counter-claims that Israel newspapers have printed violent attacks on him but he has refused to reply, although he has submitted articles answering the allusions point by point.

The investigation was disclosed in the Knesset by Mr Haim Zadok, the Justice Minister, in answer to a suggestion by right-wing Likud member that the professor should be put on trial for treason. A storm blew up over Professor Shalak in October, when he visited Holland to attend a meeting of the Dutch Palestine Committee.

Professor Shalak's critics report that these must be suspended in Israel's present perilous situation, which they compare to that of wartime Britain. Strangely, the campaign against him has been led not by right-wingers—although he has been denounced in most newspapers—but by two leading Liberals, Professor Amnon Rubinstein and Mr Uri Avneri.

He adds: "When a Jew the Syrians tortured him must believe him at once, but when a Palestinian claims that Jews tortured him we do not believe him in any way. Israel officials deny the torture accusations and maintain that no complaints have been made by Red Cross representatives who visit prisoners."

America refuses to sit on new UN aid committee

From Our Own Correspondent New York, Dec 18 The United States has caused something of a stir at the United Nations by announcing that it will not sit on a new committee which will be in charge of distributing aid to the developing countries.

They suggested that the fund might be useful for "newly rich member states, without established patterns and institutions for rendering assistance"; but they themselves intended to continue to use existing channels for distributing aid.

Mr Wilson to visit US on January 30

Mr Wilson's visit to Washington will take place on January 30 and 31, preceded by a visit to Ottawa. The Prime Minister has been invited by Mr Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, to take the opportunity of seeing him while he is in North America and Mr Wilson will fly to Ottawa on January 29.

Lebanese village raided by Israel troops

From Paul Martin Beirut, Dec 18 Helicopter-borne Israel troops attacked a village six miles inside Lebanese territory early today, blew up six houses and kidnapped four villagers. The attack is the latest Israeli riposte in the steadily growing war between Israel and the Palestinian guerrillas.

mention of guerrillas was made in the official Lebanese communication. Moshe Brilliant writes from Tel Aviv: The Israel raiders reportedly were met by sporadic gunfire. There were no reports of casualties. Military headquarters said all six houses had been searched and evacuated before they were used by terrorists. Two Arab boys had been brought back for interrogation.

Bitter fighting at Vietnam crossroads

Saigon, Dec 18—Close-quarter fighting broke out in a strategic South Vietnam crossroads town today, with communist units threatening to cut off much of Phuoc Long province, north of here, military sources said.

fallen in the past few days, and communist troops fought their way into a further town two days ago, inflicting more than 130 Government casualties, according to the sources. The Saigon command issued no report on the fighting in Don Luan, but said the airstrip just outside had changed hands twice. Militiamen captured it after losing it last night.

Saigon command reported that militiamen were driven from positions guarding two bridges, and the provincial capital, Phuoc Binh—already cut off by road from Government lines—was hit by three rockets today. The upsurge of action in Phuoc Long followed coordinated communist efforts in other regions, stretching Government forces.

The people behind an advertisement

By Edward Mortimer The Committee for Justice in the Middle East, whose advertisement in The Times last week provoked so much controversy, was set up in 1968. Its chairman is Dr Muhammad Mehdi, a lecturer in mathematics at Birkbeck College, London. Dr Mehdi is a British subject of Iraqi origin.

whom Dr Mehdi and three others are Arabs. Its aims are "to bring to the attention of the British public the truth about the Middle East conflict and to defend the human rights of the Palestinians in Israel and in the occupied territories." It has been alleged in London that the advertisements placed by the committee are financed by the Arab League. But both Dr Mehdi and the league's London office strongly deny this.

Dr Mehdi told me yesterday that the committee has 200 to 300 "ordinary members", each of whom pays an annual subscription of £1. Most of these, he said, are Arab students and sympathizers, but a large minority is British, including a number of British Jews. In addition there is a mailing list of 680 people. The committee is run by an executive of nine people, of whom Dr Mehdi and three others are Arabs. Its aims are "to bring to the attention of the British public the truth about the Middle East conflict and to defend the human rights of the Palestinians in Israel and in the occupied territories."

Dr Mehdi admits that there is a considerable overlap between the committee's members and that of the Council for the Advancement of Arab-Brit Understanding, founded in 1967, and also that of the Palestine Action. But, he says, the organizations are more political, whereas the committee concentrates on human rights. This particular advertisement, he adds, was "triggered off" by a story in the front-page photograph in The Times Mrs Golda Meir, the former Israeli Prime Minister, cries on Mr Wilson's shoulder.

"brought in a flood of donations, support, sympathy agreements" and that it should make it easier to finance further advertisements in the future. Dr Mehdi admits that there is a considerable overlap between the committee's members and that of the Council for the Advancement of Arab-Brit Understanding, founded in 1967, and also that of the Palestine Action. But, he says, the organizations are more political, whereas the committee concentrates on human rights. This particular advertisement, he adds, was "triggered off" by a story in the front-page photograph in The Times Mrs Golda Meir, the former Israeli Prime Minister, cries on Mr Wilson's shoulder.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Knight Frank & Rutley logo and address information.

SUSSEX Occupying a delightful position on edge of village. Lewes 2 miles (Victoria 1 hour) CHARMING BRICK & FLINT PERIOD HOUSE DATING FROM 1676 WITH QUEEN ANNE FACADE.

BERKSHIRE—OLD WINDSOR Beautiful position adjoining Windsor Great Park. Easy access to M4, Heathrow and London. A UNIQUE STRAWBERRY HILL GOTHIC HOUSE, FULLY MODERNISED AND MAINTAINED.

SUSSEX—THAKEHAM Storington 2 1/2 miles, Pulborough 5 miles, Worthing 12 miles. A CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE IN THE CENTRE OF THIS ATTRACTIVE UNSPOILT VILLAGE.

SUSSEX—THAKEHAM Storington 2 1/2 miles, Pulborough 5 miles, Worthing 12 miles. A CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE IN THE CENTRE OF THIS ATTRACTIVE UNSPOILT VILLAGE.

20 Hanover Square London W1R 0AH Tel 01-629 8171 Telex 265384 and at Edinburgh and Hereford

PROPERTY TO LET PARIS BRITISH COMPANY WITH UNDER UTILIZED OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES 15 mins City Airport 15 mins. Centre Paris would welcome enquiries for joint use on expense-sharing basis.

PROPERTY WANTED SOUTH AFRICA CAPE TOWN From £16,000 Write to L.H.L., P.O. Box 9, Constantia, 7800, South Africa.

Jackson-Stops & Staff 14 CURZON STREET, LONDON W1Y 7FH (01-499 6291)

GLoucestershire 1 1/2 ACRES 3 1/2 miles Winchcombe, 6 miles Cheltenham. A Fine Country House, superbly situated enjoying magnificent views. Hall, Cloakroom, 3 Reception, Fully fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility Room, Staff Sitting Room, 5 Bedrooms, Dressing Lobby, 3 Bathrooms. Oil fired Central Heating, Playroom, Garage and Stable Block. Gardens and grounds with small spinney.

SOUTH DORSET Dorchester 6 miles. An Attractive Modern Country House in a secluded and unspoilt position on the edge of a lovely village. 3 Reception Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Grounds of about 1 ACRE including a Lake. £31,000 Apply YEOVIL OFFICE, 0935 4086 (Ref: 4)

SUFFOLK A Detached Thatched Period Village House with scope for further improvement. Reception Hall, Drawing Room, Dining Room, Study, Kitchen, 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Garage. Large Mature Garden of approx. 1/2 ACRE. £19,000 Apply NEWMARKET OFFICE, 0638 4733 (Ref: 4733)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE M1 (Crick Access) 5 1/2 miles. Detached Country House in a quiet position approached by a drive. Entrance Hall, Inner Hall, 4 Reception, 5 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Main Services, Garage. Attractive Garden. For Sale Freehold (Folio 13173) Apply NORTHAMPTON OFFICE, 0604 32991

WEST SUSSEX Near Midhurst Watermill, unique position with good views, imaginative interior, 4/5 Bedrooms. Further outbuildings available. £20,000 Apply MIDHURST OFFICE, 073 081 2357

YORK CIRENCESTER CHICHESTER MIDHURST CHIPPING CAMPDEN LONDON CHESTER NORTHAMPTON NEWMARKET YEovil

LEICESTERSHIRE Attractive house for sale in the heart of the Shires, 2 reception rooms, large kitchen utility room, large central hall, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

CHICHESTER, S.W.3 Private house with secluded private garden approach and 60ft. front garden. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

CHICHESTER, S.W.3 Private house with secluded private garden approach and 60ft. front garden. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

BARGAIN AT £32,000 A magnificent newly modernized large house with double garage. Beautifully situated in Kensington, 2 1/2 miles from the City, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

ASHTEAD, NR. EPSOM 35 MINS. LONDON Business move necessitating selling our large detached house, 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

WALTHAM ST., S.W.3—Newly built detached ground floor flat with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

PROPERTY TO LET PARIS BRITISH COMPANY WITH UNDER UTILIZED OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES 15 mins City Airport 15 mins. Centre Paris would welcome enquiries for joint use on expense-sharing basis.

PROPERTY WANTED SOUTH AFRICA CAPE TOWN From £16,000 Write to L.H.L., P.O. Box 9, Constantia, 7800, South Africa.

PROPERTY TO LET PARIS BRITISH COMPANY WITH UNDER UTILIZED OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES 15 mins City Airport 15 mins. Centre Paris would welcome enquiries for joint use on expense-sharing basis.

LONDON FLATS LITTLE VENICE Spacious top floor flat with pleasant view overlooking Little Venice consisting of 2 public rooms, 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

NEW CAVENDISH STREET, W.1. A first floor flat in modern block close to Harley Street. 3 beds., 2 baths., 2 reception, kit., C.H., L.H., porter entrance, Lease 37 years £27,000; also a 2-receivd flat, £19,500.

PORTMAN SQUARE W.1 Modern, sunny, luxurious, immaculate, air-conditioned flat. Move-in condition: 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, large living room, dining room. Ideally situated for shops and transport. Long lease. Price to include Whitehall carpeting throughout and decorator curtains. Private sale. £57,000 01-936 9735

CHRISTMAS PRESENT A refurbishing chance amidst the gloom! Choice of 4 exceptional bright flats in north Kensington. 2, 3, 4, 5 bedrooms, 2, 3, 4, 5 bathrooms, 2, 3, 4, 5 reception rooms, 2, 3, 4, 5 bedrooms, 2, 3, 4, 5 bathrooms.

NR. REGENT'S PARK £29,500 Beautiful penthouse maisonette in conversion of exceptional building. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

RICHARD BARCLAY & CO. 01-946 9426

Buy me... Calm Your house can sell itself. The trick is finding people interested in your kind of property. And that's where The Times can help you. The Times runs a daily classified property page, with properties ranging from bungalows to country houses. So if you're selling, give us a ring on 01-837 3311 (or Manchester 061-834 1234) and let your house do the work. Advertisement rates: £1.25 per line. On a 5cm ad with a picture only £31 per insertion.

THE TIMES logo and contact information.

Choice of new Greek President stirs inter-party friction

By Maria Modiano
Athens, Dec 18

Mr Michael Stasinopoulos, former president of the republic and a state party of the ruling New Democracy party, was elected President today by the Parliament today to be the first President of the Republic since the new Greek constitution is drafted and promulgated, some time in the spring.

After his election, President Stasinopoulos took the oath of office in Parliament in the presence of Archbishop Iakovos, the Greek Primate, who gave a pledge to "defend the prevailing faith of the Greeks, safeguard the constitution and the laws of the Republic, and maintain and protect national independence and integrity of the Greek state".

There was applause and shouts of joy.

The new President received 291 votes out of 391. There were 108 votes against, eight blank, and three spoilt papers. The rest of the Opposition said although they had nothing against the person of the President, they were disappointed to register their dissent against the election of Stasinopoulos, the Minister, who has just ended an official visit to Athens for talks with Mr Bistinos, the Greek Foreign Minister, and other leaders.

A joint statement confirming President Tito's invitation, expressed satisfaction over the evolution of Greek-Yugoslav relations and noted the common desire for closer cooperation. The two foreign ministers agreed to consult at regular intervals.

They agreed that the present negotiations to ensure the free transit of Yugoslav trade through the port of Salonika after the expiry of the treaty for a Yugoslav free zone in that port, should be concluded as soon as possible.

Pakistan minister resigns over allegations

Islamabad, Dec 18.—Mr Khurshid Hasan Meer, the Pakistani Minister of Labour and Health, has resigned and renewed demands for a judicial inquiry into allegations of corruption.

In his letter of resignation to Mr Bhutto, the Prime Minister, published in today's newspapers, Mr Meer accused Mr Maulana Kausur Niazi, the Minister of Religious Affairs, of character assassinations, corruption and blackmail.

Mr Meer, who is 49, has been a Cabinet Minister since Mr Bhutto formed his first Government in May, 1972. He also resigned as deputy secretary-general of the ruling Pakistan People's Party.

Three days ago Mr Meer offered to resign so that allegations of corruption against him by Maulana Niazi could be investigated. He also called for public inquiries by High Court judges into any allegation of corruption or malpractice against any government minister.

His offer was met with official silence. In his letter yesterday he alleged that Maulana Niazi's men in the Information Department had put pressure on the press to delete part of his previous letter relating to the Minister of Religious Affairs.

Mr Meer said that since he had released his first letter to the news media last Saturday, "the men Maulana Niazi had placed or patronized in the Information Department and the press have been even busier at their dirty game."

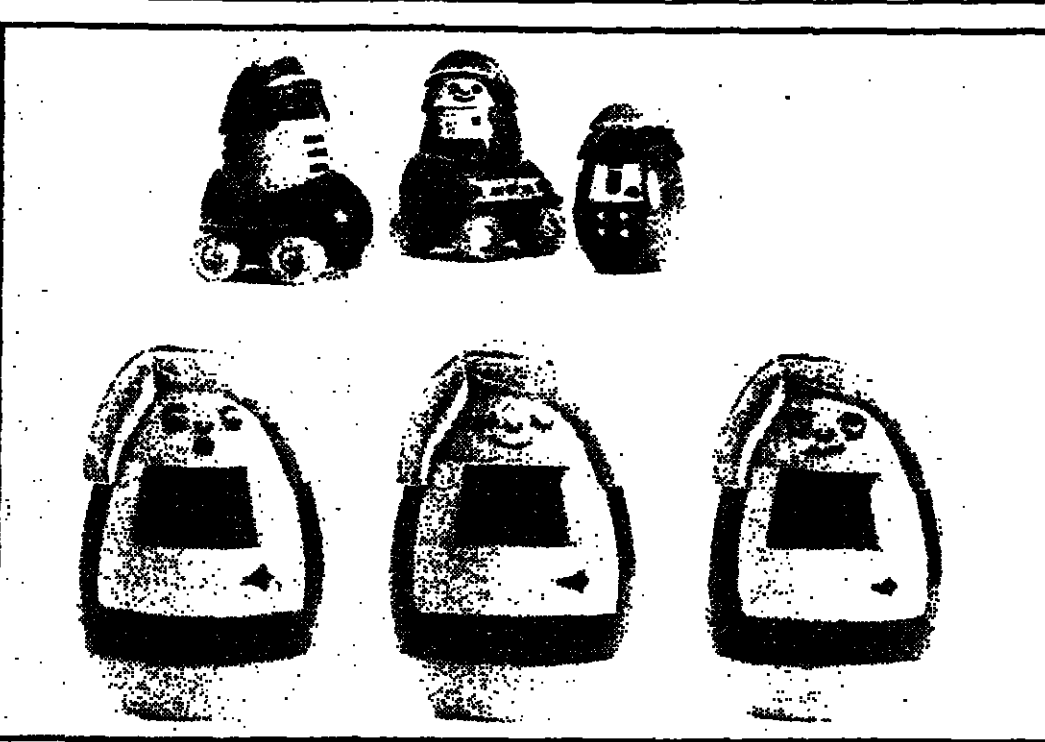
"I would bear a high-level judicial scrutiny to uncover the corruption, nepotism, and blackmail by which he had seduced me during his tenure as Minister of Information and Broadcasting."

Maulana Niazi was Information Minister for more than two years until he took over the Religious Affairs portfolio in a Cabinet reshuffle in October.

Political observers believe that the main reason for the power struggle within the party and Mr Bhutto's direct involvement in it is that there have been no elections for over 1967 since it was founded in 1967. All senior positions have been filled by Mr Bhutto's nomination.

But a reorganization of the party is now under way. Rolls are being compiled of party members and party elections are planned for late next year.—Reuter.

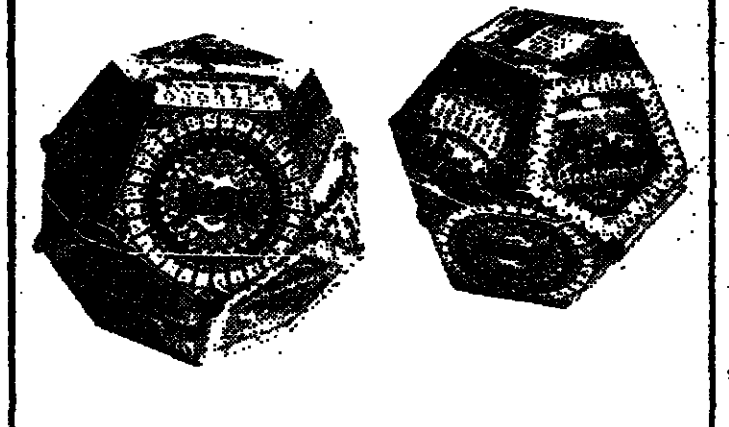
Shopping around



● Tonka people follow the usual Tonka tradition of being strong enough for children to stand on them, which they will. But these are very small finger puppets despite their strength. The lady in the bottom row has three faces because the top part, including hair and face, swivels round the body to give three expressions. Some little people are set in tiny cars, some are animals, and some are in sets of two with one car (the other character directs traffic).

Ask for the Tonka Giggles, adjust their faces to the mood of the moment, and you will find you want one on the desk as much as a child wants one at home—in fact, more adults are buying these for themselves than for their offspring. Two people and a cart cost £1.14 but individual animals are 36p. At Harrods, Fortnum's, all branches of Debenhams and House of Fraser and at other stores. Tonka's head office is at Fishponds Road, Wokingham, Berkshire.

● Escape the normal run of wall and desk calendars with this stiff card dodecahedron to make at home. Press out the coloured components and you end up with 12 faces for the 12 months of 1975. About 48p at many stations. Marketed by Tonka, 57 Alderbrook Road, London, SW12. They are in stock at Paperchase Products, 216 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1 (01-637 1121) and can be posted from there for 48p plus 12p. The sides of each dodecahedron measure about 2 1/2 inches. Paperchase is like Kettles of 127 High Holborn a mine of paper and paper things. Wrapping paper is such a price this year that it might as well be superlative—it is cheaper to buy rolls of plain-coloured paper than to buy the seasonal patterns.



● Here comes the annual reminder—an aerosol spray for the live Christmas tree. S-600 protects greenery with a clear, dry film that allows the tree to breathe but traps moisture already in the leaves or needles and so prevents or delays dehydration in hot atmospheres. Not only a way to avoid a good deal of needles-drop but you might even successfully plant the tree out for next year—if that is the intention, bed the roots in a tub of damp earth. A fresh tree will not shed its needles when you brush your hands along a branch. Keep it out of doors until the latest moment, then give it a cool corner of the house. S-600 is 35p or 55p at many stores, garden shops, Boots, etc.

Makarios attempt to visit Turkish Cypriots deplored

By Our Correspondent
Nicosia, Dec 18

Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader, said it was regrettable that the British authorities did prevent Archbishop Makarios from attempting to visit Turkish Cypriot refugee camps in the British sovereign base of Episkopi, in southern Cyprus yesterday.

The incidents connected with Makarios' visit could have been worse, Mr Denktaş said in an interview with the Turkish Cypriot Bayrak radio station.

"It is regrettable that Archbishop Makarios, disregarding Turkish leaders' attempts to make the visit for political reasons, and that the British authorities did not prevent it."

President Makarios had to take a hasty retreat yesterday after Turkish Cypriot refugees blocked the approach road to the camps at Episkopi, the presidential car was towed and sped off, the refugees stoned other vehicles in the convoy.

The abortive visit was the president's first attempt to go into direct contact with Turkish Cypriots since he returned to the island from his smooth exile on December 18.

Mr Denktaş said: "For his attempts were being made to create a moderate atmosphere between the communities, but the latest ve by Archbishop Makarios disregard the Turkish Cypriot leadership for the sake of political ambitions, put them back to their own interests, create institutions, leadership

and administrations and their peaceful coexistence depends on the agreement of their leaders. . . . The Turkish Cypriot leadership should be consulted on all issues concerning the Turkish Cypriot community."

Unless these realities were taken into consideration efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement would fail. Mr Denktaş also reiterated that the Turkish Cypriots recognize the Archbishop only as the leader of the Greek Cypriot community and not as the President of Cyprus.

President Makarios himself has refrained from any comment about the incidents. But the pro-Makarios Greek Cypriot newspaper *Apogevmatiki* said today that the incidents were organized jointly by the British and the Turks.

The newspaper blamed the British "for failing to take adequate measures to prevent a few tens of extremist Turks from demonstrating in such a manner."

It alleged that the British objective was to force the Cyprus Government to consent to the transfer of the 8,000 Turkish Cypriot refugees in the Episkopi base to the Turkish-occupied part of the island, as demanded by Turkey.

The Turkish Cypriot press also blamed the British "for allowing Makarios to enter the base area for political reasons."

The newspaper *Boskurt* said: "The British base authorities should have been aware that the Turks in the south are full of hatred for the Greek Cypriots and are ready to agitate the Greek Cypriot leadership. Was their aim to let Makarios be lynched by the Turks?"

Australia stays deportation order on Czechs

By Our Correspondent
Melbourne, Dec 18

Mr Clyde Cameron, the minister for Labour and Immigration, today ordered the release from custody of two Czech seamen who jumped ship at Groote Eylandt in the Gulf of Carpentaria five months ago and were awaiting deportation.

The men were released pending further inquiries into their case. Meanwhile, they must report to the Immigration Department in Darwin once a week.

Jan Janik, a mechanic, and Jaroslav Reimisch, a cook, made their escape from the ship, *Praba*, when it docked at Groote Eylandt to load mangoes in the bush and reported next morning to the island's police station, where they asked for political asylum.

Immigration Department officials flew them to Darwin to inform them that they were free to find jobs while their request for political asylum was being processed.

Under £10—Cachete perfume, "leather" bound Japanese photograph albums from Harrods, dinner or theatre for two, camera equipment, shrubs that stay alive and a boiler suit (for gardening?) are part of a list that also includes cassettes and more tools, indoor and out.

Rather more esoteric, but still under £10 probably for the last year—are an electric Sello-tape dispenser (last seen months ago in Selfridges and not found since); an addition to some unique old prints of the Treasury, of which I particularly like one showing the old Horse Guards as well, mounted on softly-warm burgundy and simply framed. A subscription to Sotheby's and Christie's catalogues of English pottery sales, camera equipment and more

My own definition of the ideal present is that it should cost me something to give—effort, thought, a little more money than I can easily afford, and even some envy because I would like to keep it for myself.

Because it meets more than one of these criteria, Peter Jay's recommendation of 25lbs of sugar gets the accolade for the Christmas 1974 gift in the Under £5 category. Well, you might just get it for under £5, but who is able to buy all their sugar at the lower prices—let alone get 25lbs of the stuff. What amazes me is that nobody else thought of it, including myself who makes wine.

Michael Leapman, who runs the diary, suggests the latest Dick Francis thriller while Sheridan Morley is rather more exotic with the idea of Bendicks thick mints.

Valerie, my assistant, wants a half-hour of body massage, a foot massage and pedicure which sounds as if I should work her less hard (cost about £4 from parlours everywhere). Dennis Topping, of *Business News*, has a list of tools—Yankee screwdriver, glass cutter, bits for his high-speed drill, anything gimmicky as long as it works, and Duke Ellington's autobiography, *Music Is My Mistress*. Margaret Allen, features editor, wants Badedas, as usual, and our marketing chief is among those who long for excellent wine—Philip Howard specifies champagne or malt whisky but would also appreciate book tokens. Charles Douglas-Home, assistant editor in charge of home news and affairs, gives away his hobbies by asking for camera films and golf balls.

Under £10—Cachete perfume, "leather" bound Japanese photograph albums from Harrods, dinner or theatre for two, camera equipment, shrubs that stay alive and a boiler suit (for gardening?) are part of a list that also includes cassettes and more tools, indoor and out.

Other hopes to give a Ladies Home Do-it-yourself Manual for Intelligent Women but I shall have the grace not to mention his name in case he finds one and his wife gets it. A man who likes to hedge his bets is Sheridan Morley who is as keen to give as to get Bendicks thick mints (one yard under £5 or two yards under £10) in the hope that he will be asked to share them.

Shona Crawford Poole admires Moon Boots (around £16 to £17) from Italy. She says the big base and sole, like those worn by men on the moon, are perfect for after-ski on sore, bruised feet and for walking on snow without exhaustion—in dark colour splashed with brilliant stripes, they are in many ski shops.

A year's supply of Krug 1964 would cost a lot. And a matched set of brooch, necklace, earrings and diamonds—with quality stones—would cost hundreds of thousands. Holidays in this price range cover Thailand, Haiti, California, India, Kashmir, Nepal, Sikkim or round the world.

Portable colour TV is a good idea since these must go up in price; but I doubt the wisdom of giving a Prussian-blue Jaguar XJ 12 with matching windows complete with portable colour TV for wayside haunts.

I asked people what they hated to give and to get. I have collected, unanimously, they listed clothes, tobacco, cigarettes, drink, cosmetics, ill-fitting socks and pants, useless desk furniture and accessories, anything useful and acceptable in gift parlance, after-shave lotions and other toiletries, and money.



London air girls killed in holiday crash

By Our Correspondent
Athens, Dec 18

Three air hostesses from London on holiday in Greece were killed yesterday in an air crash on the island of Zakonos. Their bodies were flown to Athens to await instructions from next of kin.

The British embassy identified the victims as Miss Diana Tompson, aged 22, Miss Valerie Gough, aged 23, and Miss Sheila Groat, aged 20, air stewardesses with British Overseas Airways.

They had apparently joined a Piper Cherokee four-engine aircraft, rented from Olympic Airways, for a day's excursion. Mrs Kelly was a national of Greek origin. The aircraft crashed about eight miles from Mykonos airfield.

Handbook for dissidents on psychiatric examination

Moscow, Dec 18.—Two Soviet political prisoners have produced a tactical handbook to guide dissidents subjected to psychiatric examination. It recommends lying and submission to the authorities.

The typewritten manuscript, entitled *Handbook to Psychiatry for Dissidents*, is circulating in Moscow. It was written in prison by Vladimir Bukovsky and Sergeyon Gluzman.

"Your fate depends on your ability to be immoral to people and organizations who profess the morality of a Hottentot," the book says. "There are no grounds for hope in the consciences of doctors."

Mr Bukovsky was sentenced in 1972 to 12 years in prison and exile for publicly alleging that some persons are put in Soviet mental hospitals. Mr Gluzman, a psychiatrist from Kiev, was sentenced to 10 years for dissident activities.

Recommending tactics for those being examined, the book says: "It is fatal to adopt the morality of the dissident—truth, sincerity, sympathy—because that would mean giving truthful replies to questions damaging to yourself. It would give the psychiatrist 'the symptoms he needs'."

Meanwhile, Anatoly Marchenko, another dissident author, has renounced his Soviet citizenship.

Mr Marchenko, who served three years in labour camps between 1968 and 1971 for his book *My Testimony*, describing prison life in Siberia, told reporters by telephone today that he had also requested permission to emigrate to the United States.—UPI and Reuter.

Russia announces token defence cuts

Moscow, Dec 18.—The Soviet Union today announced a small reduction in military spending for 1975, apparently as a sign that the Kremlin is cautiously confident that détente with the West will continue.

Mr Vasily Gorbunov, the finance minister, told the Supreme Soviet that next year 17,400m roubles (£10,023m) would be assigned in the budget for defence needs.

This represents a cut of 200m roubles (£118m) on the 1974 figure, and means that in 1975 only 8.4 per cent of the budget will officially go to the military compared with 9.1 per cent this year.

The percentage is believed to be the lowest publicly admitted

Soviet officials complained last year that much of the crop as registered was in fact dirt, snow and weeds, amounting, according to Western calculations, to as much as 15-20 per cent.

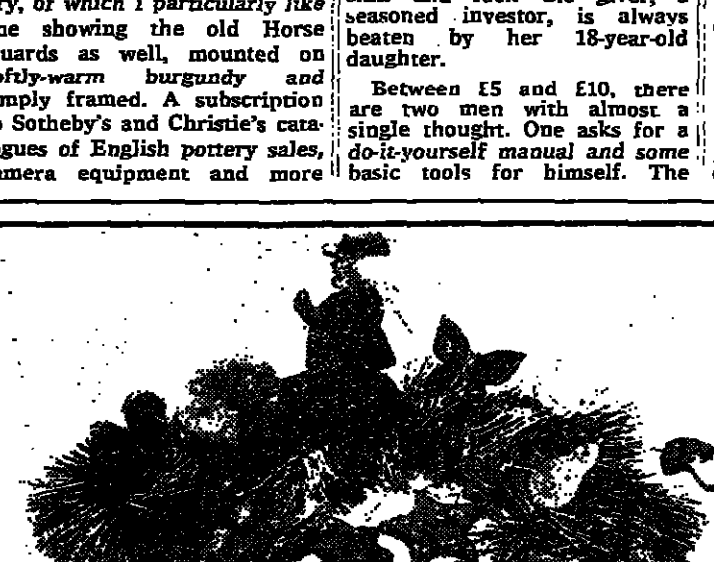
Most observers regard the 1973 record as an exception, due to unusually good weather and a campaign to offset the bad harvest of the previous year, when the Soviet Union had to make vast grain purchases on the Western market.

Although breakdown figures for this year have yet to be announced, it appears to be the Ukraine, the Soviet Union's traditional breadbasket, which came to the rescue with a harvest as good as last year's.—Reuter.

Christmas or assorted colours can be eaten (apart from the string and glitter) are an old-fashioned party idea. In fact, they need not be eaten because they are made to be kept from one year to another, dusted off and boxed for rehanging another Christmas.

While the biscuits are in few shops only, they can be bought by post from the maker, Mrs Judith Wills, 43 Fox Hill, London SE19 2XA. Orders must be in excess of £2 and

Ornamental biscuits that can be eaten (apart from the string and glitter) are an old-fashioned party idea. In fact, they need not be eaten because they are made to be kept from one year to another, dusted off and boxed for rehanging another Christmas.



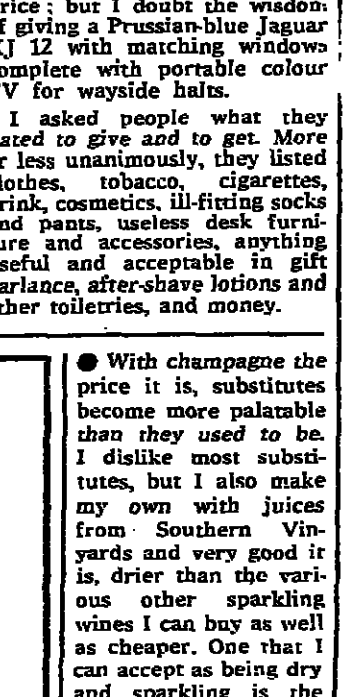
Christmas or assorted colours can be ordered.

The mushroom and pear shapes are 72p per baker's dozen (13, that is). The car, chicken, fish, butterfly, shooting star, loving heart, ordinary star, four-leaf clover and holly leaf cost 12p each or £1.44 per baker's dozen. A lion and Christmas tree are 15p each or £1.80 per baker's dozen and an old man (or a wise man?) is 20p or £2.40.

There ought to be a jar in every home...

for those who think they 'can't drink coffee'

Even if you can drink ordinary coffee you should keep a jar of H-A-G decaffeinated coffee in the house for guests who can't. (I like coffee but it doesn't like me). H-A-G is pure coffee, full bodied, delicious but decaffeinated. So, get that jar of H-A-G-to-day. Then, when your guests say 'No' to your coffee, be ready with the answer 'But it's H-A-G decaffeinated'.



Beans, Ground and Instant, All Decaffeinated. If your retailer can't supply send his name and 3p stamp for free sample (state Ground or Instant) to: Dept. A. A. Supply Co., 24 Northfield Estate, Boreford Avenue, Wembley, Middx. HA9 7YN.

'I can't face my future' I'm hungry, I live in a slum and have little chance of growing up to enjoy a decent life. Please help me!

The world's population is growing faster than our ability to provide our teeming millions with food, housing, education, jobs and medical care. We're trying to help by raising funds to help people understand the need to limit the size of their families. Please help this little boy to smile the smile of a child that has just eaten a decent meal. Please send what you can.

Population Count Down

Every £25 we raise pays for a family planning seminar for a family of 5-6 people. Simple birth control information for 10,000 families.

To: Population Count Down, Dept. 29, P.O. Box 212, 212 St. Nicholas St., London, W1. 01-637 5212

Here is my donation of £ _____

I would like to help my local group tick

Mr/Ms/Miss _____ (Registered No. 25259)

Address _____

'SAY WHEN' New report on Britain's population. Send 50p for copy (tick)

There ought to be a jar in every home...

for those who think they 'can't drink coffee'

Even if you can drink ordinary coffee you should keep a jar of H-A-G decaffeinated coffee in the house for guests who can't. (I like coffee but it doesn't like me). H-A-G is pure coffee, full bodied, delicious but decaffeinated. So, get that jar of H-A-G-to-day. Then, when your guests say 'No' to your coffee, be ready with the answer 'But it's H-A-G decaffeinated'.

HAG DECAFFEINATED Coffee

3 Kinds

Beans, Ground and Instant, All Decaffeinated. If your retailer can't supply send his name and 3p stamp for free sample (state Ground or Instant) to: Dept. A. A. Supply Co., 24 Northfield Estate, Boreford Avenue, Wembley, Middx. HA9 7YN.

cannibal

Wilson' Shirt, Colourless in Cotton, Stripe, Cotton and Wool Checks and Pure Silk Crepe de Chine, from £18.25 to £34.50.

Peasant Skirt With Side Pockets in Pure Wool Flannel and Velvet. £28.75 and £38.75

61 Beauchamp Place, London SW3. Phone 589 1038

BOOKS

A mystery at Findhorn

The Secret Life of Plants By Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird (Allen Lane, £2.75)

Plant and Planet By Anthony Huxley (Allen Lane, £4.95)

My hibiscus sulks. No question. It (she) languishes grotesquely when a little short of water, and takes two years to produce a fat red bud so heavy for the stalk supporting it that a glance from me, any bright morning, will send it crashing to the ground unopened. A year ago, she expended so much energy on the creation of a new shoot (a late, and quite unexpected, child) that her main bud has been in a state of nervous suspension ever since. Does she know that I have utterly lost faith in her? Mr Cleo Backster would say she does. So she sulks.

I love plants, but there always seems to be something wrong with mine. The gardeners of Findhorn would say there was something wrong with me: I should raise the quality of my vibrations. Mr Backster's experiments open The Secret Life of Plants, and the gardeners of Findhorn close it.

In the early 1960s miracles of horticulture were achieved on a saleswaggon caravan partly overhanging Findhorn Bay on the Moray Firth. The gardeners were Peter Caddy, his wife Eileen and a third "sensitive", Dorothy McLean. Eileen and Dorothy received spirit-guidance at each stage of the planning, and took the spirit-names of Elixir and Divina. They all prayed very hard, and their beloved garden

grew. It is easier to giggle at the Gilbertian details of the new spirituality than to explain why Elixir and Divina not only made things grow which had never grown in Findhorn before, but grew them to an exceptional size. One red cabbage weighed 42 lb, another 38. The community grew, too.

Ron Bowen's jacket-painting for The Secret Life of Plants shows one of Mr Caddy's crops, vibrantly green lettuce against a vortiginous Northern sky that might have been experienced by the mystical German landscape painter, Caspar David Friedrich. The roots of the lettuce are blood-pink, shaped like a heart, warmed by (and warming?) a cupped pair of solicitous human hands. Love and the life eternal; the oneness and mutuality of all living things; a strong dose of melodrama and sentimentality, an imminence of apocalypse and doom (the earth and most of the sea are very black); the message and tone of the book itself are perfectly arrested in a High Romantic altar-piece that gives notice before we have even opened it that The Secret Life of Plants is not primarily about agriculture at all. Its chief subject is the survival of mankind through the spiritual regeneration of a new Life Force uniting all creation. In other words, religion.

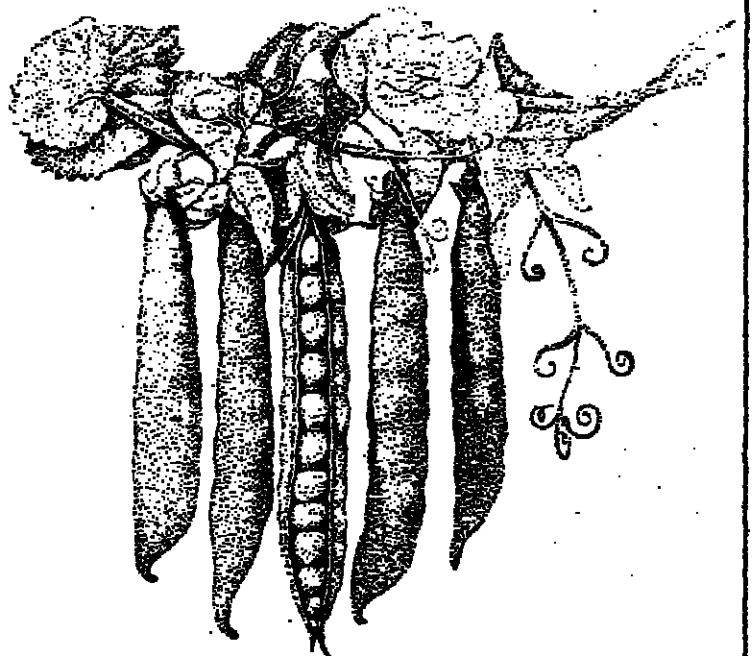
Who are the scribes who gather together and enumerate the prophets of the new religion? The vibrations are not too promising. The publishers tell us that Peter Tompkins is "the author of Secrets of the Great Pyramid and several other works of history and biography" and that Christopher Bird is a biologist and anthropologist; that all, they are serious, not to say solemn, persons, but no scholarly nor claiming origin-

ality; their minor journalistic weaknesses are vulgarity and bathos, their major one the lack of critical personality on any issues save two.

They do attack from time to time such potential adversaries of spiritual regeneration as unsympathetic bureaucracies and the scientific method of inquiry practised in Western civilization since the seventeenth century. This is their only intellectual target, and when they invoke Goethe on the destructive pointlessness of jealous, mutually exclusive disciplines, they make their point well. Or rather, Goethe makes their point well. There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, but the difficulty lies in defining what they are.

Do plants feel? Do they suffer? Can they read our minds? Can I try my phylodendron to open the garage door for me (but not for my burglar)? Is my jam killing my yoghourt? The first section of The Secret Life of Plants covers recent astonishing research into plant response in France, the United States and Russia. The next offers in support an outline summary of the "non-scientific", mystical tradition of inquiry into the natural world, from Paracelsus and Jakob Boehme (1575-1624) through Goethe and C. T. Fechner (Natura or the Soul-Life of Plants, 1848, a Victorian best-seller) to the great Indian, Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose and, most engaging of all, the phenomenal black agriculturist George Washington Carver. Thereafter, the writers swing off course into auras, force-fields, dowsing and psychic research. Tompkins and Bird synthesize other men's views with some skill but make no clear distinction between the innovator of genius and the paranoiac. We need that distinction badly. We need that distinction badly.

Anthony Huxley is the co-author of the excellent Flowers



More plants in Cobbett's Country Book (David and Charles, £4.25), whence this finely drawn embellishment by Bert Kitchen. Richard Ingrams, in his introduction, remarks that only Cobbett's Rural Rides remains in print, perhaps because as a revolutionary he has been overshadowed by Tom Paine and John Wilkes. Ingrams has chosen an enticing selection from Cobbett's non-political writings. His gardening advice is as valuable now: sow thinly, he pleads, as "covering the

ground with seeds... though it may produce abundant reaping to the seedman, is far from having that tendency with regard to the crop". He was commercial enough to exhort "all who buy my seeds, to buy my book". His English Grammar sold 55,000 copies by 1825 without ever having been mentioned by the old shuffling bribed sops, called "Reviewers". No wonder Cobbett's life was splattered with civil, and even criminal libel actions.

Ion Trewin

of the Mediterranean. He allows only a few of his 380 pages to the recent experiments doubting their provenance, but admitting a puzzlement: he conceals an unexamined mystery at Findhorn. Plant and Planet is more solid, more scholarly than The Secret Life, yet aims too far for a popular (if more informed) readership. Mr Huxley accumulates a vast board of exemplary data on the inventiveness and variety of plant life and uses it to build the

structure of a natural evolutionary and ecological order which man disturbs at his peril: his penultimate, and longest, chapter, on the environmental crisis, is all the more terrifying for its sobriety. He does not speculate: "The planet seems quiescent, and for the present man is too much in control." We shall need all the vibrations we can lay our hands on to get us out of that.

Michael Ratcliffe

Short stories

The Camberwell Beauty By V. S. Pritchett (Chatto & Windus, £3)

Eligible Men By Stanley Elkin (Gollancz, £3.50)

Social Bitch By Roald Dahl (Michael Joseph, £2.75)

There are very few short story writers at whom (glumly turning pages) I have not muttered, "There you go, stretching my credulity again". William Trevor is one exception. Mr Pritchett's stories are gracefully launched, cast off from the mooring of the first sentence, and they sail along with

barely a pause. Here is how "The Spree" opens: "The old man—but when does old age begin?"—the old man turned over in bed and putting out his hand to the crest of his wife's beautiful white rising hip and comforting bottom, his wall of his wife's body. The old man, whose wife is dead, drifts to his barber and then to a pub where he is swept up into the gaiety of a firm's annual outing. Before long he is in the hired coach, chatting amiably to a widow; then to Brighton, tasting freedom. His life has not changed, but his mood has.

Not all the stories celebrate this bitter-sweet climacteric of longing. "Our Wife" is almost absurd, a ported history of a marriage held together by a rowdy woman. The husband and the woman is too noisy and unattractive to arouse feelings of jealousy. It is all a witty strategem, and successful because it is underplayed.

The Duff Cooper Memorial Prize for 1974 has been awarded to Jon Stallworthy for his book Wilfred Owen: A Biography

"There are obvious difficulties about writing the biography of a man who lived only 25 years... Jon Stallworthy surmounts them all brilliantly in a biography which is unlikely to be bettered." -The Times

"Mr. Stallworthy keeps making one re-experience and rethink the poems, and he writes with precision and sympathy. His book is beautifully produced, also, with numerous reproductions of Owen's manuscripts." -New Statesman

"This is an outstanding book, a worthy memorial to its subject, valuable too in its additions to our knowledge of the period." -The Observer

"One of the many good things about Jon Stallworthy's really admirable and scholarly biography is his unobtrusive slipping in of quick comparison, nuances of critical perception done without too much emphasis or weight of commentary." -The Times Literary Supplement

Illustrated £6.75

Oxford/Chatto & Windus

From the author of The Golden Notebook, Children of Violence and The Summer Before The Dark

DORIS LESSING

THE MEMOIRS OF A SURVIVOR

A new and unforgettable narrative of the collapse of society, when barbarism is normal and each has to fight for survival. £2.95

OCTAGON

Dept. A, 14 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA

Goodbye Picasso

David Douglas Duncan "the best book I have ever seen about a painter... rush out and buy it" Tony Palmer, Sounds New LBC £9.95 Times Books

Crime

It is Christmas-wrapped goodies time in the crime world. The short-story collections are upon us. Stories are somewhat like the little parcels hanging on the tree: unwrapped, most of them prove to be swallow-wallowing and a hazard to read out to real presents, one or two to be cherished for ever.

This last rare sort is found in Winner's Crimes 6, edited by George Hardinge (Macmillan, £2.95), a collection of 12 stories specially written for the occasion, which benefit from the considerable length allowed the contributors. With room to manoeuvre, writers of the calibre of Winston Gribble, P. M. Hubbard, Miles Trapp and P. B. Yvill can give real specimens of their craft, true and satisfying. And in the same length Christianna Brand has produced one of those stories to remember. "No More A-Maying", a statement of the human condition at once universal and intensely local in its dark Welsh setting. And stories that allow their authors a lighter-than-air approach, such as those by Elizabeth Ferrars, John Wainwright and Colin Watson and a wholly delightful tour-de-force of sharp observation in a clubland setting by Ivor Drummond and you have a book of real value.

The 19 stories crammed

Crime

inside John Creasey's Mystery Beside Book 1975, edited by Herbert Harris (Hodder, £2.50), are almost all of the instant-munch variety, those short shorts that as Julian Symons, himself one of the contributors, says in his crime-history Bloody Order, can be read "both to write and to read". The great difficulty they present, beyond the complications of devising a foolproof logical puzzle, is in making the casing that holds the piece of ingenuity possess a decent air of surface truth. There is a particularly good example of how it can be done in a tale by Michael Gilbert centring on the routines of a family solicitors' firm.

Ellery Queen's Crookbook, edited by Ellery Queen (Collins, £2.80), is another amusing collection—25 stories this time—that for the most part provides toothsome morsels, and holiday welcome they are. Again Michael Gilbert shows how to do it, and there is an equally good example in Stanley Elin's "The Other Side of the Wall", beautifully lightly told, and as a writer within its deliberate limitations and with a wonderfully well-timed final clicking into place. Finally, in a slightly different category let me recommend for sheer value The Second Simonon Omnibus (Hamish Hamilton, £4.75), four penetrating, marvellously economical novels among the pen of a master. Dear them out to yourself once a quarter through 1975.

H. R. F. Keating

Quick guide

Essays and Opinions 1921-31, by Edgell Rickwood; Edited by Alan Young (Corgi Press, £4). Edgell Rickwood wrote the anonymous review of The TLS in 1923. "There is Mr. Elton, a descendant of the choicest phrases permitting himself blatancies... Here is a poet capable of a style more refined than that of any of his generation parodying without taste or skill... Here is a writer from whom originality is almost an inspiration, borrowing the greater number of his best lines, creating hardly any himself." Before guffawing, let the reader read the rest of that review as it has been collected in Essays and Opinions, and let

him study also Rickwood's carefully formulated objections to Elton's other books of the period; they represent, as do all his critical writings, the response of an honest mind prepared to analyse its own limitations in the way of puzzlement before new texts. Rickwood is a neglected writer. His criticisms set some of the style and tone for Leavis. He was drawing the lines, and so first putting Rimbaud before that became a fashionable pursuit for English intellectuals. This is a stimulating and exciting anthology which does much to restore one's faith in the merits of literary journalism. The making of the immediate response may be no more liable to error than the don with years in which to make up his mind. If he is an Edgell Rickwood, he is likely to be more readable 40 years on.

A brilliant mind

Francis Galton

The Life and Work of a Victorian Genius By D. W. Forrest (Elek, £5.50)

What Adam Smith is to economic theory, Francis Galton is to sociology. Herbert Spencer was philosopher compared to Galton, who was above all a measurer and experimenter. He was always measuring events—even the amplitude of his shivers when in rigor, even the boredom of audiences at the British Association. The modern sociologist owes the concept of the questionnaire to Galton, who used it to provide data for his study of hereditary talent, whence burgeoned his theory of eugenics, a word he added to the language. Since measurement is the basis of science, Galton's application of it to human physique, identity and "faculty"—ie, to general and special mental abilities—makes him the pioneer who put present-day academic psychology and sociology on its statistical path, notably forecasting the IQ test (his own IQ had been calculated at between 160 and 200). Like not a few of his successors Galton fell for rather tentative hypotheses and ended

as the founder of a cult. He was in a sense an embodiment of his most famous concept—the hereditary factors which produced the "gifted family" in which Victorian middle class society (numbering only a few hundred thousands) was oppressively rich. A convinced evolutionist and a close correspondent kinsman of Charles Darwin, Galton supposed that homo sapiens' next challenge was to take conscious control of his own further evolution; a possibility encapsulated in his calculation that whereas it takes 35 parents of high quality to produce six high quality sons, it takes 5,000 low grade parents to do the same. Deduction: breed from and improve the best tested stock. Method: by spending greater resources of education and welfare on them than on the run-of-the-mill material (and preventing degeneration from breeding at all). Galton in effect created the Eugenics Society to persuade the nation to adopt this social policy (if only to meet its growing imperial responsibilities). He died in 1911, aged 89, never to know that social policy would evolve on exactly opposite lines: to sustain the disadvantaged, the mediocre and the downright inadequate at the expense of the gifted. Galton belonged.

Roy Lewis

Law Report December 18 1974

Court of Ap

Ban imposed on publication of book to protect ward of court lifted

In re X (a minor). Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Roskill and Sir John Pennycuik.

The Court of Appeal lifted an injunction restraining the publication of a book imposed to protect a ward of court, a girl of 14, on the ground that she might suffer grave psychological harm if she read passages in it referring to her dead father.

Mr Justice Lately had granted the injunction on the application of the girl's stepfather, against the publisher and author, restraining them from publishing the book, already in print, unless the passages complained of were removed (The Times, November 6).

The Lordships held that the parental jurisdiction of the court in relation to wards of court, though in theory unlimited, should in practice be subject to limitations and in a case where the freedom of publication and the interests of the child were in conflict, the court must balance those interests.

Mr Brian Neill, QC, and Mr Frederic Reynolds for the author and publisher; Mr Bryan Atkin, QC, and Mr Lionel Swift for the stepfather.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that he would not mention the names of persons, and that it was undesirable to do so. The central figure was a girl now 14. Her father died some years ago. Her mother had married again.

In October a book was about to be published; reviews had been printed. It was on a serious subject though written in a terse and sensational style. In the first chapter alone there were passages about the girl's father, an able and intelligent but severely depressed character who was described.

It was alleged—and it could hardly be denied—that though those passages had not come to the girl's notice, there was a risk that if the book was published they might do so. It was said that it would be a real risk of grave psychological damage resulting.

Proceedings were therefore taken to make her a ward of court to restrain the publication of those passages. It was said that it would cost only £180 to publish the book without them, and that on balance that ought to be done in a tale by Michael Gilbert centring on the routines of a family solicitors' firm.

That was what Mr Justice Lately had done. He had reviewed the passages, and he had granted an injunction inherited from the Court of Chancery to protect wards and said it was wide enough to enable him to protect the child.

The jurisdiction as to wards had been regarded as in theory unlimited, there was strangely enough no case anywhere near the present which had ever come before the courts. The nearest was In re J (1984) 1 TLR 261, where a father thought a young lady of 16 was in danger of being induced to adopt the Catholic faith, and his protection he made her a ward of court and obtained an injunction to restrain a priest from trying to convert her. His Lordship did not say that he was bound to do so, but he decided in that way today; but it was an instance of the width of the court's jurisdiction in relation to wards.

There was also an unreported case, in which the Official Solicitor was concerned, where a father was anxious about his child's education at a particular school and wanted to advertise in a newspaper for people who would make complaints about the school and give him information to use. Apparently the father was also the present plaintiff's father, but he decided in that way today; but it was an instance of the width of the court's jurisdiction in relation to wards.

So far as publication was concerned, the law was completely available in the ordinary way, whether by actions for libel, proceedings for contempt of court, proceedings for obscenity, or, in the case of a newspaper, proceedings for breach of the Official Secrets Act, the status prohibiting the publication of certain forms of legal proceedings in which children are also the common law restriction such as the currently controversial topic of contempt of court. There was also the law of defamation and the law of obscenity—another controversial topic.

Within certain limits, however, there was the freedom to publish, though not in the case of a newspaper, having to pay damages for defamation or being prosecuted for obscenity.

The passages in question appeared in a preliminary chapter in a serious study of the depravity brought about by war. Opinions might differ on questions of taste, as to what was completely unacceptable judgments on taste, but such place in the courts. The serious question was whether or not the interests of this girl should be allowed to prevail over the interests of freedom of publication.

It was sought to impose the restriction on publication by wardship proceedings. His Lordship agreed with Mr Atkin that there was no limit to that jurisdiction; it was exercised on the facts. His Lordship also agreed that the mere fact that the courts had never before stretched out so far was no reason for believing that the girl was in a suitable case; and there were a number of instances in the past 50 years where the arm of the law had been stretched to

protect infants, one being that of blood tests and another the publication to parents of confidential reports made by welfare officers. His Lordship could accept that argument, but the use of the wardship jurisdiction to prevent the publication of passages objected to.

Mr Atkin stressed that the stepfather had offered pay for the deletion of the passages objected to. His Lordship said that the right of the ward to the right of the present case was to be determined on whether it was difficult or easy to take the offending passages. The should be decided on reasonable grounds.

Mr Justice Lately had expressed the view that the powers and of the courts exercised; the gated powers and duties of Crown as parents patriae to protect her or her interests of whatever kind from ever source so that if X was perit it was wholly right proper to invoke those powers to prevent her or her interests.

His Lordship thought that words were much too wide was tantamount to saying if every case where an interest was involved, the interest were paramount must always be preserved.

The court had to do a balance act. It might do it harm to do that, and he thought the balance came heavily in favour of the appellants and against the respondent.

SIR JOHN PENNYCUICK, concurring, said that he had doubt that the court when exercising the parental powers of the court, a jurisdiction to do ever it considered conduct of the welfare of a ward. By exercising the jurisdiction of a ward, the court was not exercising its parental powers, but it was exercising its jurisdiction to do ever it considered conduct of the welfare of a ward. By exercising the jurisdiction of a ward, the court was not exercising its parental powers, but it was exercising its jurisdiction to do ever it considered conduct of the welfare of a ward.

His Lordship ventured to think that it was likely, having regard to the nature of the publication and the profession of her mother and stepfather, that if the book was released and the girl's name was mentioned in any way or another become aware of the contents. So in one sense it was a strong case for the parents legitimately seeking the protection afforded by the court to a ward.

But that was not the only issue. There was in this country—and it was right that it should be stated in clear terms at this stage of the twentieth century—a right of free speech and a right of publication, and that right was at least as important as the right of individuals in particular cases to wardship or adults.

That right of publication had long been circumscribed. Though fought through the centuries and developed as one of our liberties it was confined to the eighteenth century by statute, some still on the statute books, but which had also been circumscribed by the Official Secrets Act, the status prohibiting the publication of certain forms of legal proceedings in which children are also the common law restriction such as the currently controversial topic of contempt of court. There was also the law of defamation and the law of obscenity—another controversial topic.

Within certain limits, however, there was the freedom to publish, though not in the case of a newspaper, having to pay damages for defamation or being prosecuted for obscenity.

The passages in question appeared in a preliminary chapter in a serious study of the depravity brought about by war. Opinions might differ on questions of taste, as to what was completely unacceptable judgments on taste, but such place in the courts. The serious question was whether or not the interests of this girl should be allowed to prevail over the interests of freedom of publication.

It was sought to impose the restriction on publication by wardship proceedings. His Lordship agreed with Mr Atkin that there was no limit to that jurisdiction; it was exercised on the facts. His Lordship also agreed that the mere fact that the courts had never before stretched out so far was no reason for believing that the girl was in a suitable case; and there were a number of instances in the past 50 years where the arm of the law had been stretched to

protect infants, one being that of blood tests and another the publication to parents of confidential reports made by welfare officers. His Lordship could accept that argument, but the use of the wardship jurisdiction to prevent the publication of passages objected to.

Mr Atkin stressed that the stepfather had offered pay for the deletion of the passages objected to. His Lordship said that the right of the ward to the right of the present case was to be determined on whether it was difficult or easy to take the offending passages. The should be decided on reasonable grounds.

Mr Justice Lately had expressed the view that the powers and of the courts exercised; the gated powers and duties of Crown as parents patriae to protect her or her interests of whatever kind from ever source so that if X was perit it was wholly right proper to invoke those powers to prevent her or her interests.

His Lordship thought that words were much too wide was tantamount to saying if every case where an interest was involved, the interest were paramount must always be preserved.

The court had to do a balance act. It might do it harm to do that, and he thought the balance came heavily in favour of the appellants and against the respondent.

SIR JOHN PENNYCUICK, concurring, said that he had doubt that the court when exercising the parental powers of the court, a jurisdiction to do ever it considered conduct of the welfare of a ward. By exercising the jurisdiction of a ward, the court was not exercising its parental powers, but it was exercising its jurisdiction to do ever it considered conduct of the welfare of a ward.

Breath test appeal for Lords

Walker v Lovell. Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice James and Mr Justice Melford Stevenson.

If a motorist blows into a breathalyzer but does not completely fill the bag, has he failed to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test even though the crystals turn green?

The House of Lords is to consider the question on a police appeal from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, who decided that the motorist had not failed to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test even though the crystals turned green.

The House of Lords is to consider the question on a police appeal from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, who decided that the motorist had not failed to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test even though the crystals turned green.

The House of Lords is to consider the question on a police appeal from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, who decided that the motorist had not failed to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test even though the crystals turned green.

The House of Lords is to consider the question on a police appeal from the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, who decided that the motorist had not failed to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test even though the crystals turned green.

The difficulty in the way of police was R v Holah [1973] 1 WLR 1271, in which the appellant was held to have failed to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test even though the crystals turned green. Nevertheless he was arrested. On appeal consideration was given to section 12(3) of the Road Safety Act 1967, which provided that a specimen of breath for a breath test was sufficient quantity of breath to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test.

His Lordship thought that section 12(3) meant references to full bag as opposed to a partial bag. But the author of Holah's case was that if crystals turned green, however small the quantity of breath caused to go into the bag, it was sufficient. The position was clarified by R v Holah (1974) RTR 465, in which it was held that, in deciding whether or not a suspect had failed to provide a specimen of breath for a breath test, the objective and no question of view formed by the officer or the motorist could arise; the specimen was a sufficient specimen.

In the present case the crystals went green and the test was positive. Their Lordships had to try themselves as bound by authority to say that that meant that the specimen of breath was sufficient for the purposes of the test and the correct procedure was to seek to arrest the defendant under section 8(4). There had been an adequacy of breath for a positive test and, therefore, not failure.

It seemed most elementary that the defendant should be entitled to say that it was a case in which no breath specimen was provided. That was sufficient to say that the defendant was driving a car with a completely deflated tyre in Thames and was stopped by the

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving judgment on Friday (then sitting with Mr Justice Melford Stevenson and Mr Justice Watkins), said that the appellant had been driving a car with a completely deflated tyre in Thames and was stopped by the



ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA AND BALLET

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9JF. The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9JF. The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2E 9JF.

THEATRES

PALACE, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR. The Palace Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR.

CINEMAS

CINEMA, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3727. The Curzon Cinema, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3727. The Curzon Cinema, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3727.

THE ARTS



Sandra Browne

Barber of Seville Coliseum

It is good to be back in the Coliseum again after its six weeks of darkness. The production chosen for the reopening—or perhaps it was selected by force of circumstances—was Douglas Craig's old one of The Barber. It was never much more than a serviceable production, with its inclination to humour; but at least it usually had pace and vitality.

Stanley Sadie

It is good to be back in the Coliseum again after its six weeks of darkness. The production chosen for the reopening—or perhaps it was selected by force of circumstances—was Douglas Craig's old one of The Barber. It was never much more than a serviceable production, with its inclination to humour; but at least it usually had pace and vitality.

Ruddigore Sadler's Wells

Ruddigore is badly in need of an overhaul. The bold, bad barons have too long been under the sole rule of D'Oyly Carte, and their housing, if not under-rehearsed, certainly dead-weighted. The park is not one of the canon that exactly plays itself. The targets for its satire, melodrama and Gothic horrors are not easily comprehended today, and mean little to us when they are under attack; but a resuscitated Ruddigore might find something fresh in the weaker of Gilbert's lines and make the most of the best, among those those inconsequential outbursts of Mad Margaret, while restoring to the quite

Alan Blyth

Elgar's public manner considerably moved by a vital streak of respect, but also, perhaps more to the point, the public manner itself proves to be not really that at all, but a crucial side to the composer himself, from which he seems able to draw a practically endless supply of unforgettable melodies, all no doubt somewhat similar, yet not so similar as to reduce the freshness of each as it turns up.

Stephen Walsh

The continued fascination of Elgar's symphonies, perhaps especially of the First, which was the main work in Tuesday's concert, is one of the odder features of the contemporary musical scene. And yet there is certainly no myth about it, as Sir Charles Groves proved once again in a consistently gripping and occasionally inspired performance with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

London debuts

Given a sufficiently sensitive performance, Debussy's Ariettes Oubliées rarely fail to cast their spell, and Patricia Hooper's warmly sympathetic account did much to compensate for her technical uncertainty. Britten's arrangement of Purcell's Sacred Songs.

Clive Barnes

Is Job funny? Perhaps. Certainly it seems that Neil Simon thinks that the story of Job is the ultimate custard-pie joke. The new comedy, Job's Favourite, at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre, bases itself on the Biblical tale, with, at least in brief references, all those good Old Testament wars, plagues and famines.

Uncle Vanya

The opening is a little slow. We meet Joe and his family, and his loyal retainers. Much of the humour consists in the baffled repetition of simple phrases and the confusion of a family threatened by a burglar. The messenger from God. One knows he is a messenger from God because he has a large "God" emblazoned on his sweatshirt. This epinevial young man has also met the Devil and confided, "he looks just like Robert Redford—gorgeous!"

Irving Wardle

If any evidence were still needed to disprove the old rule against actors directing themselves, Nicol Williamson supplies it. Separate performances apart, it is extremely satisfying as a piece of scenic organization. Stratford's studio theatre couples intimate address with a large rectangular playing area, and the production mirrors that by combining verbal and understatement with an expansive use of space that defines the isolation of Chekov's characters. The movement of the production is to bring them together in clusters and then scatter them back to their separate corners: sometimes rising to climaxes of simultaneous dialogue and inarticulate passion that would lose their effect in a larger theatre.

Hans Andersen Palladium

Rumour had it that the Palladium was not offering a pantomime this year; but this is none other than our old friend Dick Whittington, the lad of humble origins making good in the big city, complete with transformation scene, the stagecoach turning into a schooner on the journey to Cope—I beg its pardon—Wonderful, Wonderful Pastel Shaded Copenhagen, where chiselled-featured dockers swing their lager out of pewter mugs as they dance with their birds outside the cardboard hotel where, despite the angle of her hips, the proprietress is as wholesome, if not as real, as Aggie Weston.

Charles Lewsen

Though short of comical, the pantomime does boast a dame: Lila Kaye as a vicar's wife desperate to bed the principal boy, Hans (Tommy Steele). Daringly, it gives us an ending that is not unambiguously happy. The Dick gets Alice Fitzwarren the Lord Mayor's daughter, Hans does not get Jenny Lind the Swedish Nightingale. But he does win the hearts of countless readers, in a steelblue follow-spot which we gather, is

Job the archetypal Simon character

God's Favourite Eugene O'Neill, New York

likely to believe the literal re-creation of Job is an Old Testament raggy become a New Yorker cartoon. Having set up the situation Simon starts letting off jokes like firecrackers. Admittedly like far too many of these jokes are concerned with brand names and television references. Simon nowadays appears to believe that you only have to mention names like Lemon Pledge or "Hollywood Squares" to raise a laugh. Well, with the unsophisticated word-cropping, this kind of name-dropping is cheap. At the best, it is a kind of hilariously dead-pan parody of our finest comic playwright. The rest of the humour is that New York wry on the rocks that Simon has practically patented for smoothness. As the hero, Job, has a kind of hilariously dead-pan ecstasy and, even better, are taken from life. Unfairly enough, whereas this may be Simon's most imaginative play (Job for laughs does take a bit of imagination), it is the least successful. Not only is the opening slow, but also the ending is anticlimactic. If you have exploited tragedy for its humour, how do you get around a happy ending? The theatrical success of Job is limited, but the audience has still got to get out of the theatre with an ending in its mind. This is a structural problem that is possibly insoluble—certainly Simon scarcely comes to grips with it.

More than any other Simon play, God's Favourite depends heavily on its staging and setting. Michael Bennett's direction lets all God break loose. A man falls into a snow drift (offstage), the mansion is wrecked, and Job writhes around at the drop of a thunderbolt. Bennett keeps everything moving as merrily as a devil in hell, while William Rittman's collapsing mansion is some of the most fluidly messaged in years. It is both beautiful and clever.

Vincent Garderia as the latter-day Job is masterly. Bassy, punctilious and yet, somehow, noble. He convinces us not only of his suffering (when he looks like Zero Mostel suffering a brainstroke) but also, in a different way, of his decency. Karlov's look of pained and maternal apprehension has rarely been used better, and Terry Kiser scores insolently as the family's drunken first-born. However, Charles Nelson as Reilly, as the messenger from God, is a little slow. We meet Joe and his family, and his loyal retainers. Much of the humour consists in the baffled repetition of simple phrases and the confusion of a family threatened by a burglar. The messenger from God. One knows he is a messenger from God because he has a large "God" emblazoned on his sweatshirt. This epinevial young man has also met the Devil and confided, "he looks just like Robert Redford—gorgeous!"

The Other Place Stratford-on-Avon

Williamson has also seized on the play's internal stylistic contrast by allowing the second act to grow from domestic chaos into a delicate nocturne, and following that with a breezy modulation into farce in Act III. As for the casting, one starts by wondering why Williamson, a natural for the wolfishly sardonic Astro, is playing the name part. But this actor knows some kind of compensation; so we all go out happy, humming the tunes we came in humming (this is the show of the movie, when Mr Steele is replacing the saccharine of Danny Kaye with the treacle pud of old England).

Charles Lewsen

Though short of comical, the pantomime does boast a dame: Lila Kaye as a vicar's wife desperate to bed the principal boy, Hans (Tommy Steele). Daringly, it gives us an ending that is not unambiguously happy. The Dick gets Alice Fitzwarren the Lord Mayor's daughter, Hans does not get Jenny Lind the Swedish Nightingale. But he does win the hearts of countless readers, in a steelblue follow-spot which we gather, is

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

THEATRES

DE WOLF, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE. The De Wolf Theatre, 377 Regent St., London W1B 5DE.

ART EXHIBITIONS

SPINK, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF.

ART EXHIBITIONS

SPINK, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF.

ART EXHIBITIONS

SPINK, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF.

ART EXHIBITIONS

SPINK, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF. The Spink Art Exhibition, 100 Strand, London WC2R 0JF.

English National Opera is back in action! Full schedule of published performances over Christmas and the New Year. London Coliseum 01-836 3161

The consequences of Crown Agents' operations in the money and property markets

House of Commons MRS. JUDEH HART, Minister of Overseas Development (Labour, Lab.), in a statement to the House...

Government hastening the collapse of finance, production and saving

MR HEATH (Berkley, Sitcup, C), opening a debate on the economy, said the extreme gravity of the crisis which faced the country...

Nation must be fitter not fatter with leaner, efficient economy

MR HEALEY, Chancellor of the Exchequer (Labour, Lab.), said it was not a coincidence that the Government had been offering the prospect of rapidly growing demand...

Political and economic unity of UK vital

House of Lords The EARL OF CROMARTIE (C) opened a debate on the need for political and economic unity of the United Kingdom...

Manifesto's meaning known to Mr Callaghan

MR JAY (Battersea, North, Lab) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs...

Social contract valiant but too rigid

MR THORPE (North Devon, L) said it was essential for the Government to bring home clearly to the country the economic situation...

Protecting British interests in Uganda

MR TOWNSEND (Berkley, Berkley, C) asked the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs...

MP protests at procedure after poll result

MRS MILLIE MILLER (Redbridge, Hford, North, Lab) was given the floor in the House of Commons...

The deteriorating trade deficit with all parts of the world

MR BUCHANAN (Glasgow, Springburn, Lab) asked if the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs...

MP protests at procedure after poll result

MRS MILLIE MILLER (Redbridge, Hford, North, Lab) was given the floor in the House of Commons...

EEC ministers in January

MR HATTERSLEY, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Birmingham, Edgbaston, Lab), said in a statement...





MARTELL 1715
 Trafalgar 1805

90 years before the mast.

SPORT

Queen agrees to word 'diamond' in King George VI race title

Michael Phillips, racing correspondent, reports on the Jockey Club's decision to use the word 'diamond' in the title of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes.

The inclusion of the word 'diamond' in the title of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes has been agreed by the Jockey Club.

The future of the five-year-old colts race will remain open, so it is doubtful that the values of those races are going to rise to the level of the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Stakes.

It was at a dinner given earlier this year to mark the fifth anniversary of the Cheltenham Gold Cup that the word 'diamond' was first used.



Tip The Wink, winner of the Sharon Hurdle, leads the field over the last hurdle at Towcester yesterday.

Captain Clover sails through

Captain Clover revelled in the mud to win the Menlo Park Novices' Handicap Steeplechase at Towcester yesterday.

Tennis Newcombe makes light of Dibley's service

Sydney, Dec 18.—John Newcombe, the top seed, who is battling to reach peak fitness for next week's Australian tennis championships, easily reached the last eight in the New South Wales state tournament here today.

Cricket Amiss sure to return for Adelaide match

From John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Perth, Dec 18. It is only this or if only that. It has been that kind of day for the England touring team, thinking of what should have been and regretting what is.

The Australian team for the first Test in Melbourne from December 26 to 31 is: Captain, I. M. Chappell (South Australia), R. Edwards (Western Australia), W. J. Edwards (Western Australia), J. Jenner (South Australia), A. A. Mallett (South Australia), R. W. Marsh (Western Australia), J. R. Thomson (Queensland), M. H. Walker (Victoria), K. D. Walters (New South Wales).—Reuter.

Weight in favour of Prince Vision

Prince Vision, the smallest field of several at Southwell, starting an hour earlier because of a division, might provide the first finish between the five for the Christmas Tree Steeplechase at Southwell.

Folkestone programme

12.45 SELLING HURDLE (£320: 2m 20yds) 1. 101-00 High Master (J. Perrett), 10-12-71. 2. 102-00 Spontaneous (A. Neaves), 10-12-71. 3. 103-00 Unknown Warrior (Mrs Miller), 10-12-71.

1.15 HAWKING HURDLE (Div I: £355: 2 1/2m) 1. 001-00 Kalligraff (Mrs Molese), 6-11-70. 2. 002-00 Kalligraff (Mrs Molese), 6-11-70. 3. 003-00 Kalligraff (Mrs Molese), 6-11-70.

1.45 WHITELEW GOLD CUP STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £473: 3m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

2.15 SHADOXHURST HURDLE (Handicap: £560: 2 1/2m) 1. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73. 2. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73.

2.45 ADELINGTON STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £452: 2m 100yds) 1. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73. 2. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73.

3.15 HAWKING HURDLE (Div II: £346: 2 1/2m) 1. 000-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70. 2. 001-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70.

Folkestone selections: 2.45 Indian Cottage, 3.15 Inventory. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Southwell selections: 2.0 Prince Vision is specially recommended. 2.30 Silver Bird, 3.0 Mick the Miller. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Towcester results: 12.30 (12.31) CARMEL HURDLE 1. 101-00 High Master (J. Perrett), 10-12-71. 2. 102-00 Spontaneous (A. Neaves), 10-12-71.

1.15 HAWKING HURDLE (Div I: £355: 2 1/2m) 1. 001-00 Kalligraff (Mrs Molese), 6-11-70. 2. 002-00 Kalligraff (Mrs Molese), 6-11-70.

1.45 WHITELEW GOLD CUP STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £473: 3m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

2.15 SHADOXHURST HURDLE (Handicap: £560: 2 1/2m) 1. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73. 2. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73.

2.45 ADELINGTON STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £452: 2m 100yds) 1. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73. 2. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73.

3.15 HAWKING HURDLE (Div II: £346: 2 1/2m) 1. 000-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70. 2. 001-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70.

Folkestone selections: 2.45 Indian Cottage, 3.15 Inventory. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Southwell selections: 2.0 Prince Vision is specially recommended. 2.30 Silver Bird, 3.0 Mick the Miller. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Towcester results: 12.30 (12.31) CARMEL HURDLE 1. 101-00 High Master (J. Perrett), 10-12-71. 2. 102-00 Spontaneous (A. Neaves), 10-12-71.

Southwell programme

12.0 CHRISTMAS PARTY HURDLE (Div II: Part I: 3-y-o: £170: 2m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

1.0 CHRISTMAS BOX HURDLE (£317: 2m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

1.30 CHRISTMAS STOCKING STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £272: 2m 74yds) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

2.0 CHRISTMAS TREE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £272: 2m 74yds) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

2.30 CHRISTMAS CAKE HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2 1/2m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

3.0 CHRISTMAS PARTY HURDLE (Div II: Part II: 3-y-o: £170: 2m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

3.15 HAWKING HURDLE (Div II: £346: 2 1/2m) 1. 000-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70. 2. 001-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70.

Folkestone selections: 2.45 Indian Cottage, 3.15 Inventory. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Southwell selections: 2.0 Prince Vision is specially recommended. 2.30 Silver Bird, 3.0 Mick the Miller. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Towcester results: 12.30 (12.31) CARMEL HURDLE 1. 101-00 High Master (J. Perrett), 10-12-71. 2. 102-00 Spontaneous (A. Neaves), 10-12-71.

1.15 HAWKING HURDLE (Div I: £355: 2 1/2m) 1. 001-00 Kalligraff (Mrs Molese), 6-11-70. 2. 002-00 Kalligraff (Mrs Molese), 6-11-70.

1.45 WHITELEW GOLD CUP STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £473: 3m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

2.15 SHADOXHURST HURDLE (Handicap: £560: 2 1/2m) 1. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73. 2. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73.

2.45 ADELINGTON STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £452: 2m 100yds) 1. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73. 2. 10-20 Blair (M. Kingsley), S. Mellor, 7-21-73.

3.15 HAWKING HURDLE (Div II: £346: 2 1/2m) 1. 000-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70. 2. 001-00 Inventor (C. Spencer), T. M. Jones, 6-11-70.

Folkestone selections: 2.45 Indian Cottage, 3.15 Inventory. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Southwell selections: 2.0 Prince Vision is specially recommended. 2.30 Silver Bird, 3.0 Mick the Miller. By Our Newmarket Correspondent.

Towcester results: 12.30 (12.31) CARMEL HURDLE 1. 101-00 High Master (J. Perrett), 10-12-71. 2. 102-00 Spontaneous (A. Neaves), 10-12-71.

Table tennis Chinese will play against England

The Chinese table tennis team, who will compete in the international event, sponsored by the Newmarket Union, at Brighton on January 9 to 11, will also play two international matches against England.

Skiing American dashes Italian hopes of a double

Madonna di Campiglio, Italy, Dec 18.—Sliding the way that has made him current world champion, Italy's Peter Mueller has dashed Italian hopes of a double in the World Cup giant slalom here.

Snow reports

DEPTH STATE WEATHER: AUSTRIA: 50-100 Good. GERMANY: 10-20 Good. SWITZERLAND: 10-20 Good.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Boston Bruins 5, Atlanta Flames 3; St Louis Blues 4, Chicago Blackhawks 2; New York Rangers 3, Philadelphia Flyers 2.

MCC first-class tour averages

Table with columns: Batsman, Mths, Inngs, NO, Runs, Wkts, Avege. Lists averages for players like A. W. Greig, M. Hendrick, D. L. Underwood, etc.

Bowling

Table with columns: Bowler, Overs, Mths, Runs, Wkts, Avege. Lists bowling figures for M. Hendrick, D. L. Underwood, etc.

Rackets

Key match in colts division involves two left-handers

By Our Rackets Correspondent (Marlborough), tall and free-living, plays N. B. F. Hubbard (Clifton) who whacks the ball about the court, and the No 2 seed, P. J. Rosser (Malvern) meets R. M. Tindall (Barnet). The last named pair are left-handers and their meeting could prove to be a key one.

Table tennis

The Chinese table tennis team, who will compete in the international event, sponsored by the Newmarket Union, at Brighton on January 9 to 11, will also play two international matches against England.

Skiing

American dashes Italian hopes of a double

Madonna di Campiglio, Italy, Dec 18.—Sliding the way that has made him current world champion, Italy's Peter Mueller has dashed Italian hopes of a double in the World Cup giant slalom here.

Identical defeat for Oxford

From A Special Correspondent, Davos, Dec 18. For the third year in succession Cambridge have convincingly won the university slalom today in the slalom the aggregate of the four fastest times clocked by the Cambridge team was 16.48sec ahead of the Oxford total, a victory margin identical to that achieved in the giant slalom on Tuesday.

Knockroe may be back in action

Knockroe may be back in action next flat season. He has been in Ireland since October and will have a couple of races over hurdles in the new year.

Apprentice has 517 wins

Laurel, Maryland, Dec 17.—Only 10 months after winning his first race, Christopher McCarron, a 19-year-old apprentice jockey, has set an American record for horse racing victories in a year.

Catterick Bridge

12.45 SELLING HURDLE (£320: 2m 20yds) 1. 101-00 High Master (J. Perrett), 10-12-71. 2. 102-00 Spontaneous (A. Neaves), 10-12-71. 3. 103-00 Unknown Warrior (Mrs Miller), 10-12-71.

Southwell programme

12.0 CHRISTMAS PARTY HURDLE (Div II: Part I: 3-y-o: £170: 2m) 1. 001-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73. 2. 002-00 Flams (D. Ld Head), R. Head, 8-11-73.

Table tennis

The Chinese table tennis team, who will compete in the international event, sponsored by the Newmarket Union, at Brighton on January 9 to 11, will also play two international matches against England.

Making a common cause of military détente in Europe

The negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe which began in Vienna on October 30, 1973, should result in easing the military confrontation in that region, where large contingents of ground and air forces and also considerable quantities of nuclear weapons are concentrated.

How can this be achieved? The parties to the negotiations come up with different answers to this question.

Underlying the position of Western states is the proposal to carry out asymmetrical reductions of only ground forces of Nato and the Warsaw Treaty states (first of all reductions by the Soviet Union and the United States). The concept of the "disproportions" existing, so the Western representatives assert, between the ground forces of the two groupings in Central Europe, was put forward to reinforce this proposal, according to which the socialist states should cut their armed forces by three times as many men as the Western states.

Is that approach justified? In order to answer this question it is necessary to analyse the correlation of Nato and Warsaw Treaty forces in the zone where the reductions are to be made. Naturally, a correct assessment of the balance of forces of the two sides can be made only if due account is taken of all the components of the armed forces and armaments which form an organically connected whole in each given case. Closely co-operating in these complexes are foreign and national ground and air forces, and also units and sub-units equipped with nuclear weapons.

Of course, there are differences in the composition of the armed forces of the two groupings in the centre of the continent of Europe. The personnel and the number of weapons of individual types of armed forces and armaments determined by the sides in the light of many factors, and, in particular, by the material and financial possibilities and manpower resources available in each state.

As early as the 1950s, for instance, western states decided



Mr James Schlesinger: Important advantages for Nato.

to place emphasis on the mass build-up in Central Europe of nuclear weapons and the means of delivering them, as these were considered to be more effective than conventional arms.

In his annual report to the United States Congress, published in the spring of this year, Mr James R. Schlesinger, the Secretary of Defense, stressed that "American nuclear commitments to the security" of Nato members were firm.

Following the example of western states, the socialist countries could take one type of armed forces or armaments and talk in Vienna about, for example, the reduction of nuclear weapons alone. That road, however, would take the parties away from a search for a practical solution to the problems of mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe—the task which was unanimously approved by all of them during last year's preparatory consultations in Vienna.

Why, then, are the western representatives continuing to evade an examination of the overall balance of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe? Perhaps this can be explained by the fact that the alignment of armed forces and armaments between Nato and the Warsaw Treaty states, taken as a whole, is characterized in Central Europe by an approximate balance. This has been also confirmed by data provided by the Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

in Central Europe. What is more, the data cited in the West concerning the numerical strength of ground forces require close verification. For instance, when estimating the overall strength of the Nato ground forces, the western representatives do not include in them the air defence forces, which number tens of thousands of men. At the same time they include the air defence troops in the ground forces of the Warsaw Treaty states. It is also known that about 120,000 West German civilians are employed in the foreign armed forces stationed on West German territory, and the majority of them perform the same functions as are performed by servicemen in the Soviet armed forces stationed in the area for which reductions are proposed.

The figures for the number of tanks also need verification. The western side ignores the fact that the United States is keeping 5,000 tanks in depots in West Germany and that replenishments have been effected in other Nato states. These figures, however, considerably change the picture of the balance of forces of the two groupings in this field.

Taking into account the existing balance of armed forces and armaments between the Nato and Warsaw Treaty states, and also the decisions arrived at in the preparatory consultations, it becomes clear that a military détente can be achieved in this region through equal commitments by all the negotiating parties regarding the reduction of ground forces, air forces and armaments, including nuclear weapons (excluding the navy, as was specified in the agreement reached in the preparatory consultations). Such a reduction should affect both foreign and national components of the armed forces. There are no other categories of armed forces in Central Europe. The socialist states have always proceeded from this fact.

The same opinion was voiced by the western states in a special declaration adopted at the Nato council's session in Rome in 1970.

It stated that there were two types of armed forces—foreign armed forces and the armed forces of the states situated in the reduction area.

In practice this means two kinds of commitment—the withdrawal of foreign troops and all their armaments and material, and the disbanding of national troops and the removal of armaments and material from their fighting strength. There is no other way of reducing the military confrontation in the agreed area of Central Europe.

Military détente is a common cause and therefore all the states which are potential parties to the future agreement (or agreements) must be involved in the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments. This means that they have to undertake definite commitments with regard to the reduction of their armed forces. Promises by West European participants in the negotiations and also by Canada to cut their armed forces in the second stage, or in the indefinite future, cannot be any substitute for this.

The draft agreement submitted by the delegation of the Soviet Union, West Germany, Poland and Czechoslovakia on November 8, 1973, provides for a clear-cut programme of measures for the reduction—a programme thoroughly worked out as regards dates and quantities. The draft agreement is based on the basis of the realities existing in Central Europe, does not upset the alignment of forces which has taken shape there and does not provide unilateral military advantages.

The negotiations in Vienna, mutually acceptable solutions can be found only on condition that the principle of the undiminished security of all the parties is observed.

How the new mood of militancy can strengthen the UN

The United Nations General Assembly has just been having one of its stormiest sessions for some years. It has shown once again how the developing countries, when they vote together, can carry so far, and it has done so in ways that have particularly upset the western countries. There have been angry accusations of illegality and of "tyranny of the majority."

The angriest of all came from Mr John Scali, the American representative. But British, French and West German speakers have all joined in calling on the majority to pay some attention to the views of the minority, or not simply to push through resolutions by force of numbers. If these views are ignored, they have argued, it will make the resolutions unrealistic.

There is of course nothing new about the West not getting its way in the General Assembly. Britain has regularly been outvoted on colonial questions and American dominance ended spectacularly in 1971 with the vote to admit China. Each year scores of resolutions are passed against the wishes of the western countries, but have tended to be ineffective.

The difference this year is that there have been found of using the numerical majority of the developing countries so that they can have a real impact on major international issues. This is true for instance, of South Africa. The campaign against it at the United Nations, the fact that only the British, French and American vetoes saved it from expulsion, and the subsequent decision to exclude it from this year's General Assembly, have clearly been a factor in South African calculations.

Something of the same is true of Mr Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and his regal reception at the United Nations. It is because it has allowed resentments to come out into the open, and "blown away cobwebs".

He points out that several of the developing countries who replied to Mr Scali's speech did so in moderate terms which showed awareness of the need for dialogue with the

industrialized world. The of the western countries, she to be detach these count from the "revolutionaries" work with them on setting a new international econo order which would take ev one's interests into account

Now that it has shed imperial trappings, Britain enormous opportunities at United Nations. Mr Rich finds, providing it learns to use them. He finds that certain can still exert influence partly for historical reasons, partly also because of its li with the United States and the other members of the European Economic Community.

This year Britain and other members of the Europ Community have in fact b cooperating more than e before, consisting on alr every point that comes. They have not always succe in achieving a common posit or in voting on the same s cesses, such as their jo decision to abstain on the m resolution on Palestine 1 month.

This cooperation gives members greater "muscle", Richard says, as well as grea protection. It has now got the point where any mem of the European Commu who wants to vote differ from the rest feels the nee least to justify what he doing.

As to the United Natio general Mr Richard thinks it its achievements are oft underestimated. He points the work it has done this ye on economic problems of t developing world, to the s cess of the Security Couni stopping the fighting betw Iran and Iraq, and to the eff tiveness of the United Nati presence in the Middle East in Cyprus.

The question that has arise this year, he says, is how t United Nations should be use Is it to be used as an instr ment for revolutionary pr gress, or as a body whic brings sovereign governmen together and respects the varying attitudes?

So far as Britain is concerned, there appear to be no grounds for despair about the way the United Nations is going. At least according to Mr Ivor Richard, the British Permanent Representative. Mr Richard thinks that this year's debate on the "tyranny of the majority" has been a useful one, because it has allowed resentments to come out into the open, and "blown away cobwebs".

He points out that several of the developing countries who replied to Mr Scali's speech did so in moderate terms which showed awareness of the need for dialogue with the

Peter Straffon

have put much of the blame on Mr Abdelaziz Bouteflika, the Algerian Foreign Minister, who has been this year's President of the Assembly, accusing him of using his position for partisan ends. But Mr Bouteflika has been solidly upheld by the Assembly majority, and there was nothing they could do about it.

How things will go in the future has still to be seen. The Western countries are far from having lost all their leverage, and this showed in the debates on Cambodia and Korea, two areas of concern to the Chinese. The Americans succeeded in beating off a Chinese attempt to expel the Lon Lok regime and replace it with Prince Sihanouk. They also defeated a Chinese move to dismantle the United Nations command in South Korea.

The Chinese, in fact, have not come out of the session very well, since they lost on both these votes. Nor have the Russians, who had no big initiatives of their own, and tended to follow rather than lead.

There is, however, a new militancy among the developing countries, and this is presumably something that has come to stay. It shows particularly on economic issues, where many of the developing countries are heartened by the success of the oil weapon, and it feeds on a sense of resentment towards the West. Many speakers have pointed out that the Western countries paid little attention to the others when they themselves controlled a majority.

So far as Britain is concerned, there appear to be no grounds for despair about the way the United Nations is going. At least according to Mr Ivor Richard, the British Permanent Representative. Mr Richard thinks that this year's debate on the "tyranny of the majority" has been a useful one, because it has allowed resentments to come out into the open, and "blown away cobwebs".

He points out that several of the developing countries who replied to Mr Scali's speech did so in moderate terms which showed awareness of the need for dialogue with the

Raymond Fletcher

Choose your truth and stick to it

Tell the truth, wrote Oscar Wilde, and you will sooner or later be found out. This aphorism, which has inspired many a politician out of favour, out of office and even out of his seat, ought, like all pieces of wittily concentrated wisdom, to lift the spirits of all 635 of us as we prepare for the Christmas recess. But I fear it will do no such thing.

For, oddly enough, there is a surfeit of truth. Never in history have so many political prophets proclaimed so much of it to so many. Huge slabs of it are hurled at readers of leading articles. Three-minute snippets of it go out almost hourly from radio and television studios. Book-loads of it are spat out on the shelves of our libraries every day. And thousands of computers click and flash incessantly as they arrange, condense and reveal it.

Yet this information explosion, far from creating an informed citizenry, has had precisely the opposite effect. We are all more bewildered than our great-grandfathers, who blithely unaware that Britain had had a visible trade deficit throughout most of its trading history, went on working and investing to such effect that much of the world's spare capacity was directed to Britain as though by the law of gravity.

But their seemingly secure world began to dissolve in a sea of information even before the First World War. Even the law of gravity itself was, in effect, repealed by Einstein, whose mathematical thought spilled over into other areas and produced one result almost as awful as the nuclear bomb. This was the discovery that there is no such thing as The Truth. There are only fragmented truths, all relative.

When Mr Heath, therefore, urges Mr Wilson to tell the people the truth about our economic problems, and implies that he himself has been doing this very thing all along, he is

not (in our genteel parliamentary phrasology) uttering terminological inaccuracies. He is merely stating a truth, refracted through the prism of his own beliefs, that the capitalist system is the best system we have got. It is true that profits are too low. It is true that taxation on them is excessive. It is true that wages are rising too fast and too much. It is true, as Sir Keith Joseph insists, that most of our industries are over-managed.

But let me assure my readers (most of whom, judging by my correspondence, seem to be Tories) that my acceptance of these refracted truths does not mean that I am about to slip quietly over to the wrong side of Smith Square in London and be taken into the Conservative Party as converts are received into the Catholic Church. Far from it.

For it is equally true, as stated by Mr Wilson and Mr Jack Jones, that profits have been grossly misused (even by those who profess to be capitalist standards), that they have been generated by the wrong kind of economic activity (again by capitalist standards) and quite inadequately invested (by any standards).

There are, I repeat, plenty of truths floating around trying to find harbours for themselves. But, with so many truths, is there any wonder that so many people concern themselves more with the objective certainties of the racing results than the mathematical thought spilled over into other areas and produced one result almost as awful as the nuclear bomb. This was the discovery that there is no such thing as The Truth. There are only fragmented truths, all relative.

When Mr Heath, therefore, urges Mr Wilson to tell the people the truth about our economic problems, and implies that he himself has been doing this very thing all along, he is

reflected in their wages, and that Mr Alfred Morris's selfless work for the disabled deserves as the organized support I am able to muster for it.

But let me get back to the larger world. Nobody has more effectively allegorized our present situation than M Pierre Boule (whose original, *Swifian Planet of the Apes* has become a growth industry in Hollywood). In a lesser-known tale, *The Age of Wisdom*, M Boule envisaged a united world which has solved its economic problems but in which two schools of thought organize themselves into political parties.

There is the Corpucular party, dedicated to the proposition that everything in the universe is composed of electrons. And there is the Electronist party, equally fanatically committed to the view that "waves are the essence of the world and that the electron is an illusion created by the imperfection of our senses and measuring instruments."

Both parties decide, independently of each other, that some great project is needed in order to settle their differences, one way or the other, and thus remove all conflict from this best of all possible worlds. So they set out, armed with a technology beyond our nightmares, to raise the temperature at the icecaps to benefit the Eskimos and to lower it at the Equator to make life more bearable for people there. They certainly demonstrate that they can both do it. But they wipe out both peoples in the process.

There has to be a moral to everything written so near to Christmas. Mine can be only the chilly one that it is not only the politicians who have brought this nation to the abyss. It is you lot, out there, who will not choose a truth, live by it and work for it.

© Times Newspaper Ltd, 1974

Mr Fletcher is Labour MP for Ilkerton.

How goes *thee*—fight, warriors? The answer is supplied by Macbeth: So foul and fair a day I have not seen. In other words, though the millionaires still, apparently unabated, throng good, audible reason to believe that the enemy's nerve is crumbling, and that we may soon have him on the run.

For it is clear that they are at last trying to speak English correctly. Most of them, as I shall presently demonstrate in a rather offensive manner, are falling; but there are unmistakable signs that someone in authority is telling them to stop it, and that they wish, at any rate, to obey. *The World Tonight*, for instance, on December 11 (Radio 4) was absolutely free-lass from beginning to end, with the exception of the contribution of Dominic Harrod, who made up (down, I suppose) for half a dozen otherwise excellent pieces by not only scattering his *thees* all over his contribution ("thee—news from New York... thee—richest of thee—Middle East oil producers"), but compounded his offence by his repeated use of that hideous upward scoop at the end of a phrase that used to be the trademark of Chris Underwood until he was reformed: "so can Harrod; let him do so forthwith."

Three of the worst offenders on ITN—Sandy Gall, Giles Smith and Andrew Gardner—have all been heard, since I last reported, trying to do better; it is clear, however, that the habit now so deeply ingrained that it will take a long course of persecution by me to make them get rid of it entirely. Gall, for instance, said on December 5th (*News at Ten*), everyone in *thee*-country... *thee*—different nationalist movements... *thee*—Football Association Secretary... *thee*—thirty thousand strong Turkish invasion force... *thee*—draw for the semifinal... On December 11th, he rattled off *thee*—

hanging issue... *thee*—Naval and Military Club... *thee*—Chief of Staff of *thee*—Provisional IRA... *thee*—German magazine... *thee*—self-styled British spy... *thee*—Confederation of British Industry... *thee*—Chancellor of the Exchequer... *thee*—capital.

In the same programme, Andrew Gardner started off in magnificent style, hardly completing a single *thee* in the first half of the programme; unfortunately, he broke down completely in Part II, offering 11 *thees* and an *ay* for good measure, all of which I have noted for my forthcoming monograph on him.

Which brings us to Reginald Bosanquet. When I last reported from the front, I indicated my feeling that Gardner was the worst criminal of the lot. Clearly, I must have stung Reggie never a man to allow himself to be a good measure, all of which I have noted for my forthcoming monograph on him.

Which brings us to Reginald Bosanquet. When I last reported from the front, I indicated my feeling that Gardner was the worst criminal of the lot. Clearly, I must have stung Reggie never a man to allow himself to be a good measure, all of which I have noted for my forthcoming monograph on him.

Which brings us to Reginald Bosanquet. When I last reported from the front, I indicated my feeling that Gardner was the worst criminal of the lot. Clearly, I must have stung Reggie never a man to allow himself to be a good measure, all of which I have noted for my forthcoming monograph on him.

Bernard Levin

A case of thee less said the better

Now this Bosanquet deserves study. I have known the man for many years, and hold him dear; many's the glass we have raised in each other's company. I rate him to be a good egg, and I am also reasonably sure that the things on either side of his head are ears, and of plastically shaped blobs of plasticine. Why, then, can he not hear himself mangling and debauching the language in this manner? Or if he can hear himself why does he not stop doing it?

There is an explanation—not an excuse—for the habit. Most of the offences are committed under the influence of the teleprompter; the villains are reading their text and want to make it sound spontaneous, so they use this horrible and illiterate device to that end. Unfortunately, it does not make their words sound spontaneous; it makes them sound more artificial, stilted and ignorable. We had a perfect example of that truth on *News at Ten* on December 5th, when Sandi Gall's horrible *thee*-ridden delivery, the ear was soothed and attracted by an amateur. It was the taxi-driver who chased the men suspected of throwing the bomb at the Naval and Military Club his account of the matter had a dozen or more definite articles in it, and every one, without exception, was pronounced correctly. The consequence, of course, was that the taxi-driver sounded like an interesting human being, and all sounded like a boring waxen figure.

As did Desmond Hamill (December 5, *News at Ten*) with *thee*-side-street... *thee*—police... *thee*—Criminal Justice Act... Giles Smith (but he, too, is trying) with (same programme) same night... *thee*—motorway limit... *thee*—limit on other roads... *thee*—first candidate... *thee*—seventy-five pence gallon" (Smith, as if to show that his illiteracies are not limited to the definite article, also offered "prob-

berly" for probably, and then—perhaps even that effort being too great—contracted the same word even further, to "probably"). Peter Woods (BBC 9 pm *News* December 5) with *thee*—maximum selling prices... *thee*—Soviet party leader... *thee*—Chateau of Rambouillet (he pronounced the difficult Rambouillet perfectly why should he serve a foreign language more faithfully than his own?); and an unnamed female news reader on the 6 pm *News* (BBC Radio 4) on December 8 who rattled off *thee*—four African nationalist organizations... *thee*—normally moderate ANC... *thee*—decision of Rhodesia's African nationalist leaders... *thee*—signing ceremony... *thee*—South African Prime Minister... *thee*—body of... *thee*—space-racing trip... *thee*—Chairman of British League of Students... *thee*—Bakers' Union (which last, incidentally, she provided with a General "Secretary").

The Campaign for Noisier Illiteracy does not, of course, confine itself to mispronouncing the definite article and inserting an artificial, unnecessary and distracting pause after it; as many fellow-warriors have pointed out, almost every preposition is treated similarly, and followed by a pause which does nothing but destroy the meaning of what is being said. Such extensions of the *thee*-principle have not escaped me, and I shall also publish studies of the weather-reports readers (some of whom are among the very worst offenders) and of the extent to which public men who are neither professional broadcast nor professional speakers have nevertheless caught the plague. We have recently had Dr Derek Stevenson of the BMA giving us *thee*—doctors are steamed up", Sir Don Ryder offering

"*thee*—switch-over" and M Stretton of the Bakers' Union putting in his bid with "some thing for *thee*—members"; but today I shall conclude as before, and as will be my regular practice, with a roll of honour.

Top of it is Mr Kenneth Kendall, of BBC Television; indeed, every offender on every channel should simply be told to listen to him; his delivery has none of the empty mannerisms of the *thee* men, is perfectly pitched, his text accurately stressed. His news-reading is a pleasure to the ear, and mark this, you Bosanquets, Gardner, Smiths, Galls, Woodses, Harcastles—it is also much better at its job, which is, after all, conveying information. Because he speaks English instead of *thee*—horrible non-language heard elsewhere, the mind attends to him more easily and he feeds it more effectively. Almost as good is Mr Richard Baker, who shows, incidentally, that a voice need not be free of all idiosyncrasies (as, for instance, Mr Kendall's is) to be an instrument that a literate man can use to convey meaning attractively.

Of the reporters, Keith Stanford keeps up his excellent standard, and is joined by Anthony Cartwright; Christine Eade, of the BBC's political staff, spoke a *thee*-less and generally excellent piece on the 6 pm *Radio Four* news on December 5, marked only by "temporary" for temporary; and David Tonge was shortly qualify for a Reformers' Sinner Badge, his report from Athens on December 8 (BBC evening news bulletin) being, I think, his first *thee*-less delivery since I started the campaign. O reform it altogether!

© Times Newspaper Ltd, 1974

The Times Diary

Good news: how to live to be 1,000

the body, and strengthen the system by administering huge doses of vitamins, either orally or by injections. At 45 he is a living advertisement for his theories, exuding energy from his compact frame. So, too, is his sculptress wife Begga d'Haese and their nine children.

Parkinson wrote the introduction to the doctor's book *You don't have to be mad, but it may help*. Parkinson later realized that the doctor's theories could be combined with his own to save the world. The professor believes civilization is declining because we do not eat properly.

The two men have been in deep consultation for two weeks inside the doctor's plush villa at Knokke-le-Zoute, in the heart of Belgium's Costa Geriatrica, outlining a joint book. Time is short. The professor believes that Western civilization will have collapsed by the year 2000, unless Russia makes the last stand. The book is to be called *The Law of Life*, and should be out before doom descends.

I hear that Edward Heath is planning to go to Jamaica next month. Before his rivals for the leadership start throwing their hats into the ring or the air, I must add that he also plans to come back, though it is still interesting to speculate whether the trip's purpose will be to restore his forces for the defence of his crown, or to get himself out of the limelight for a bit, having renounced it. His spokesman denies that either interpretation is appropriate.

rooms at once, I could not swear that my reason was exhaustive. Among the first people I met was an old friend from the Soviet embassy who reminded me that the last time we met at a party I recorded the fact in this column, reporting his view that Britain would survive the difficulties which then, as now, faced us. I asked him whether he was still hopeful that he would win through, and he smiled. "Not win through", he said. "Muddle through, perhaps."

In spite of the absence of Labour people, I found the Eurofolk optimistic about the chance of Britain staying in the Community following the Paris summit. Indeed, it was an unusually festive evening. I was even received cordially by Peter Kirk, the prize Eurocommuter whose dash to and from Luxembourg I chronicled last week. It was his fiercely loyal secretary and hatcher woman who gave me

the hardest time over this, and would not let me leave the party until I had sworn to print Kirk's rejoinder, which you see below. So read on.

Eurodash

Peter Kirk has written a good-humoured rejoinder to my item last week recording his epic dash from the European Parliament in Luxembourg to London and back. I reported that he failed by four minutes in his main aim—to vote in the Commons hanging debate.

He points out that, while this is true, he did manage to record his vote "against the Government" numerous proposals to impose yet further taxes upon the self-employed. He adds that I was wrong to say he sped from London Airport in an official car. It was a privately hired (though publicly funded) vehicle.

Finally, he points out that the

cost of the operation will not, I asserted, be borne by the British taxpayer (which means us) but by the European taxpayer (which means us and them).

I have now received what I take to be an authoritative ruling on what the Germans call *the fish*. Margarith Moods of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea in Copenhagen, and she should know, says *shrimps* are Garneen or Speiskrabbe, the crab is Tasckenkrabbe and crayfish is Krebbe or Flusskrebse.

Dickey

Committee Room 7 at the House of Commons is becoming the place where Neil Kinnock MP, brings oppressed people to talk about their oppression. Last week he presented Angela Davis, who spoke on behalf of oppressed black people. Yesterday, even more exotically, he was in the company of a team of young and straggling couples, of both sexes, from the Casanova Club in Mayfair.

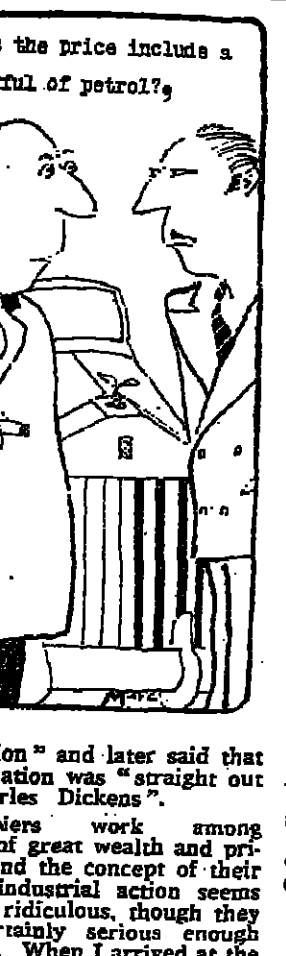
The Trouble at the Casanova Club sounds like a detective story by Dorothy L. Sayers, but it is real enough. The club sacked 75 of its employees for taking part in industrial action. Kinnock spoke of old-fashioned Victorian managerial

House, their representatives, unused to being up and about at 11 in the morning but looking immaculate all the same, were shivering outside for the benefit of photographers.

Before the conference started Raymond Fletcher, MP, joked that somebody should have brought some cards, so they could play a few hands while waiting for stragglers to turn up. Another speaker made what was probably an unconscious quip when he said that all union members in the industry faced "a dicey situation".

There were colourful descriptions of things said to be happening at the Casanova after the mass sackings, when it was being run by allegedly under-trained staff. George Sawford of the T&GWWU's casino section, told tales of roulette balls flying from wheels to all parts of the room, and of people allegedly being paid out on bets they had not made. No wonder there is a waiting list for membership.

Quote of the week from Jennifer, author of Jennifer's Diary in Harpers and Queen, interviewed on Desert Island Discs: "Yes, I'm a real old Cockney. I was born in Cadogan Gardens."





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE December 18: His Excellency Mr Jaime Zobel de Ayala and Mrs Zobel de Ayala were received in audience by the Queen this morning and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of the Philippines to the Court of St James's.

Her Majesty held a Council at 12.30 o'clock this afternoon. There were present: the Right Hon Edward Short, MP (Lord President), the Lord Shepherd (Lord Privy Seal), the Right Hon John Morris, MP (Secretary of State for Wales), the Right Hon Barbara Castle, MP (Secretary of State for Social Services), the Right Hon Merlyn Rees, MP (Secretary of State for Northern Ireland), the Right Hon Eric Varley, MP (Secretary of State for Energy), the Right Hon Frederick Peart, MP (Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food), and the Right Hon Samuel Silkin, MP (Attorney General).

The Lord Fraser (a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland) was sworn in a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Right Hon Edward Short, MP had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

The Duke of Edinburgh was entertained at Buckingham Palace by the National Coal Board at Hobart House, Grosvenor Place.

Major Henry Hugh Smith was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, as Patron and Twelfth Man, this afternoon presented the Lord's Taverners County Championship Trophy to the Worcestershire County Cricket Club.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE December 18: The Duke of Kent, as Patron, and The Duchess of Kent were present this evening at the Christmas Concert of the Leukaemia Research Fund at the Royal Albert Hall.

Lieutenant-Commander Richard Buckley, RN, and Mrs Alan Henderson were in attendance.

Mrs Marie Gulbenkian sends affectionate greetings to all her friends for Christmas and 1974. She is not sending any cards.

The Hellenic Society of Professional People and Scientists in Great Britain has arranged a piano recital in aid of the refugees of Cyprus, to be given by Mr Christodoulos Georgiades at the New Gallery, Regent Street, on January 8, 1975.

Mr and Mrs Neville Siddolph wish all their friends a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Marriages

Mr A. B. J. Lennox and Miss A. Richli The marriage took place in Toronto, on Wednesday, December 4, of Mr Andrew Burt James Lennox, only son of Mr and Mrs Francis Lennox, of Florida and Toronto, and Miss Alexandra Richli, youngest daughter of the late Mr Paul Raymond Richli and Mrs Lennox, of Toronto, Ontario, and Paris. The couple will live in Toronto.

Mr R. R. Page and Miss L. Wagner The marriage took place on Saturday, December 14, at the Queen's Chapel at St James's, of Mr Robert Page and Miss Lucy Wagner, Canon J. S. D. Mansel officiated. The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, Sir Anthony Wagner, was attended by Miss Katherine Page. Mr Michael Page, best man. A reception was held at Vintners' Hall.

Mr W. A. Broughton and Mrs M. I. Dolleman-Farnborough The marriage took place on Friday, December 13, at Guildhall, London, officiated by Sir Andrew Burt James Lennox, Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Security.

Mr D. J. Hodgson and Miss S. A. Lancaster The marriage took place quietly in London yesterday between Mr Douglas John Hodgson and Miss Susan Anne Lancaster.

Luncheons

Prime Minister The Prime Minister was host at a luncheon in 10 Downing Street for the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam. The other guests were Mr Brian Mulroney, Minister of State for the Department of Health and Social Security.

Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers The Spanish Ambassador was guest of honour at a luncheon given yesterday at the Marlborough Hotel, Aldwych, by the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain. Mr John Dickie, president of the association, was in the chair.

Royal Automobile Club The Senior Hundred members of the Royal Automobile Club were invited to a luncheon to celebrate the founding of the club in 1897.

Reception Winter Ball Mrs Michael Heselidine, chairman, held a reception for the committee of the Twenty-fifth Winter Ball. Among those present were: The Hon. Viscountess Davidson, Lady Sheilagh, Mrs Humphrey Atkinson, Mrs James Prior, Sir Niall O'Donnell, Mrs Lewis, and Mrs Frank Taylor.

Manzoni Trust The appeal for a memorial to Sir Herbert Manzoni has reached a total of £44,500 towards the target of £50,000.

Lincoln's Inn Mr D. B. McNeill, QC, and Mr D. H. Marwood Davies, QC, have been elected Benchers of Lincoln's Inn.



Mr Ahmed Abdul Wahhab al-Nakib, Ambassador of Kuwait, in front of the proposed new embassy in Queen Anne's Gate, to be renovated by Walter Lawrence & Son, of which Mr D. Scriven, right, is a director.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include: Mr Alfred Bates, MP for Bellington and Eilemser Port to be parliamentary private secretary to Mr Brian Mulroney, Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Security.

Dr Jonathan Miller, playwright and drama director, and Mrs Elizabeth Thomas, arts editor of the *Observer*, to be members of the Arts Council.

Provost of Cumbria

The Bishop of Argyll and The Isles is resigning as Provost of the College and Church of the Holy Spirit, Cumbria. He has appointed Rev Graham Pilkington, Rector of the Church of the Holy Redeemer, Houston, Texas, and leader of the Community of Celebration, Yeldall Manor, Hare Hatch, Berkshire, to be provost from January 1.

The Rev Dr Paul Felton, a member of the community, will assist the provost, especially in the pastoral care of the congregation in Millport.

Birthdays today

Mr John Bowie, 69; Sir Charles Duke, 69; Viscount Hunt, 68; Professor T. H. Marshall, 81; Brigadier C. G. Martin, 81; Sir Andrew Murray, 74; Sir William Murray, 74; Sir Arthur Newell, 89; Count Edward Raczynski, 83; the Right Rev Dr W. G. B. Plummer, 83; Sir Ralph Richardson, 72; Lord Rowllan, 79.

Latest wills

Lady Burt, of Dulwich, obstetrician and gynaecologist, widow of Sir Charles Burt, died in hospital, left £58,692 net (duty paid, £5,546). She left £2,000 to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Mr John King's College, £66,239.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr H. C. Balfour and Mrs G. L. Griswold The engagement is announced and the marriage will shortly take place between Hugh George Balfour, of Oakland, near Edebridge, Kent, and Bertha Rin, elder daughter of the late Mr and Mrs V. C. Livingstone-Learmonth, of Wheatley, Oxford, widow of Donald L. Griswold, of New York State, United States.

Mr R. R. L. Blum and Mrs A. E. Winterbottom The engagement is announced between Rupert Richard Leo Blum, of the Commission of the European Communities, 200 rue de la Loi, Brussels, and Ann Elizabeth Winterbottom, only child of Mr and Mrs H. G. Hudson, of Stanfield Hall, Wymondley, Norfolk.

Mr P. C. G. Danby and Señora E. O'S. De Regalado A marriage has been arranged, between Rupert Richard Leo Danby, son of the late Denis Danby and Mrs Doris Danby, of Wimbledon, Surrey, and Señora E. O'S. De Regalado Duñasa and daughter of Señora and Señora Terence O'Sullivan, of San Salvador.

Mr J. R. Letts and Miss A. M. M. Rogers The engagement is announced between James Robert Letts, son of Mr and Mrs R. F. Letts, of Mulberry Drive, Beas, Kent, and Alison, only daughter of Mr and Mrs W. N. Richardson, of the Dutch House, Brookvale Road, Southampton.

Mr D. J. Oliver and Miss S. C. Penton The engagement is announced between David James, only son of Mr and Mrs C. W. Oliver, of 10, Cavendish Square, London, and Sarah Catherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C. A. Penton, of Orford, Kent.

Mr C. E. Stott and Miss H. A. Plugg The engagement is announced between Charles Edmund, twin son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Stott, of Tivoli, Staffordshire, and Helen Aileen, elder daughter of Captain and Mrs H. A. Plugg, of Little Bookham, Surrey, and Mrs Peter Liddell, of Warwick-on-Eden, Cumbria.

Contracts & tenders

ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS AUTHORITY CALL FOR TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD AND BRIDGE AT EL-DOKKI, EL-DOKKI GOV. A.R.E.

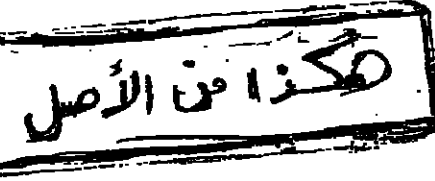
Tenders are accepted only from tenderers from member countries of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and Switzerland.

Bids for the following six tenders will be received by the Tender Office, 12, 13 & 14, Upper Ground, London, E.C.4, until 10.00 a.m. on the following dates: TENDER No. 1/74/12, 13 & 14, U.G. (Opening date, Wednesday, December 19, 1974, 10.00 a.m.) Supply of DIFFERENT DIAMETERS weighing 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800, 850, 900, 950, 1000, 1050, 1100, 1150, 1200, 1250, 1300, 1350, 1400, 1450, 1500, 1550, 1600, 1650, 1700, 1750, 1800, 1850, 1900, 1950, 2000, 2050, 2100, 2150, 2200, 2250, 2300, 2350, 2400, 2450, 2500, 2550, 2600, 2650, 2700, 2750, 2800, 2850, 2900, 2950, 3000, 3050, 3100, 3150, 3200, 3250, 3300, 3350, 3400, 3450, 3500, 3550, 3600, 3650, 3700, 3750, 3800, 3850, 3900, 3950, 4000, 4050, 4100, 4150, 4200, 4250, 4300, 4350, 4400, 4450, 4500, 4550, 4600, 4650, 4700, 4750, 4800, 4850, 4900, 4950, 5000, 5050, 5100, 5150, 5200, 5250, 5300, 5350, 5400, 5450, 5500, 5550, 5600, 5650, 5700, 5750, 5800, 5850, 5900, 5950, 6000, 6050, 6100, 6150, 6200, 6250, 6300, 6350, 6400, 6450, 6500, 6550, 6600, 6650, 6700, 6750, 6800, 6850, 6900, 6950, 7000, 7050, 7100, 7150, 7200, 7250, 7300, 7350, 7400, 7450, 7500, 7550, 7600, 7650, 7700, 7750, 7800, 7850, 7900, 7950, 8000, 8050, 8100, 8150, 8200, 8250, 8300, 8350, 8400, 8450, 8500, 8550, 8600, 8650, 8700, 8750, 8800, 8850, 8900, 8950, 9000, 9050, 9100, 9150, 9200, 9250, 9300, 9350, 9400, 9450, 9500, 9550, 9600, 9650, 9700, 9750, 9800, 9850, 9900, 9950, 10000, 10050, 10100, 10150, 10200, 10250, 10300, 10350, 10400, 10450, 10500, 10550, 10600, 10650, 10700, 10750, 10800, 10850, 10900, 10950, 11000, 11050, 11100, 11150, 11200, 11250, 11300, 11350, 11400, 11450, 11500, 11550, 11600, 11650, 11700, 11750, 11800, 11850, 11900, 11950, 12000, 12050, 12100, 12150, 12200, 12250, 12300, 12350, 12400, 12450, 12500, 12550, 12600, 12650, 12700, 12750, 12800, 12850, 12900, 12950, 13000, 13050, 13100, 13150, 13200, 13250, 13300, 13350, 13400, 13450, 13500, 13550, 13600, 13650, 13700, 13750, 13800, 13850, 13900, 13950, 14000, 14050, 14100, 14150, 14200, 14250, 14300, 14350, 14400, 14450, 14500, 14550, 14600, 14650, 14700, 14750, 14800, 14850, 14900, 14950, 15000, 15050, 15100, 15150, 15200, 15250, 15300, 15350, 15400, 15450, 15500, 15550, 15600, 15650, 15700, 15750, 15800, 15850, 15900, 15950, 16000, 16050, 16100, 16150, 16200, 16250, 16300, 16350, 16400, 16450, 16500, 16550, 16600, 16650, 16700, 16750, 16800, 16850, 16900, 16950, 17000, 17050, 17100, 17150, 17200, 17250, 17300, 17350, 17400, 17450, 17500, 17550, 17600, 17650, 17700, 17750, 17800, 17850, 17900, 17950, 18000, 18050, 18100, 18150, 18200, 18250, 18300, 18350, 18400, 18450, 18500, 18550, 18600, 18650, 18700, 18750, 18800, 18850, 18900, 18950, 19000, 19050, 19100, 19150, 19200, 19250, 19300, 19350, 19400, 19450, 19500, 19550, 19600, 19650, 19700, 19750, 19800, 19850, 19900, 19950, 20000, 20050, 20100, 20150, 20200, 20250, 20300, 20350, 20400, 20450, 20500, 20550, 20600, 20650, 20700, 20750, 20800, 20850, 20900, 20950, 21000, 21050, 21100, 21150, 21200, 21250, 21300, 21350, 21400, 21450, 21500, 21550, 21600, 21650, 21700, 21750, 21800, 21850, 21900, 21950, 22000, 22050, 22100, 22150, 22200, 22250, 22300, 22350, 22400, 22450, 22500, 22550, 22600, 22650, 22700, 22750, 22800, 22850, 22900, 22950, 23000, 23050, 23100, 23150, 23200, 23250, 23300, 23350, 23400, 23450, 23500, 23550, 23600, 23650, 23700, 23750, 23800, 23850, 23900, 23950, 24000, 24050, 24100, 24150, 24200, 24250, 24300, 24350, 24400, 24450, 24500, 24550, 24600, 24650, 24700, 24750, 24800, 24850, 24900, 24950, 25000, 25050, 25100, 25150, 25200, 25250, 25300, 25350, 25400, 25450, 25500, 25550, 25600, 25650, 25700, 25750, 25800, 25850, 25900, 25950, 26000, 26050, 26100, 26150, 26200, 26250, 26300, 26350, 26400, 26450, 26500, 26550, 26600, 26650, 26700, 26750, 26800, 26850, 26900, 26950, 27000, 27050, 27100, 27150, 27200, 27250, 27300, 27350, 27400, 27450, 27500, 27550, 27600, 27650, 27700, 27750, 27800, 27850, 27900, 27950, 28000, 28050, 28100, 28150, 28200, 28250, 28300, 28350, 28400, 28450, 28500, 28550, 28600, 28650, 28700, 28750, 28800, 28850, 28900, 28950, 29000, 29050, 29100, 29150, 29200, 29250, 29300, 29350, 29400, 29450, 29500, 29550, 29600, 29650, 29700, 29750, 29800, 29850, 29900, 29950, 30000, 30050, 30100, 30150, 30200, 30250, 30300, 30350, 30400, 30450, 30500, 30550, 30600, 30650, 30700, 30750, 30800, 30850, 30900, 30950, 31000, 31050, 31100, 31150, 31200, 31250, 31300, 31350, 31400, 31450, 31500, 31550, 31600, 31650, 31700, 31750, 31800, 31850, 31900, 31950, 32000, 32050, 32100, 32150, 32200, 32250, 32300, 32350, 32400, 32450, 32500, 32550, 32600, 32650, 32700, 32750, 32800, 32850, 32900, 32950, 33000, 33050, 33100, 33150, 33200, 33250, 33300, 33350, 33400, 33450, 33500, 33550, 33600, 33650, 33700, 33750, 33800, 33850, 33900, 33950, 34000, 34050, 34100, 34150, 34200, 34250, 34300, 34350, 34400, 34450, 34500, 34550, 34600, 34650, 34700, 34750, 34800, 34850, 34900, 34950, 35000, 35050, 35100, 35150, 35200, 35250, 35300, 35350, 35400, 35450, 35500, 35550, 35600, 35650, 35700, 35750, 35800, 35850, 35900, 35950, 36000, 36050, 36100, 36150, 36200, 36250, 36300, 36350, 36400, 36450, 36500, 36550, 36600, 36650, 36700, 36750, 36800, 36850, 36900, 36950, 37000, 37050, 37100, 37150, 37200, 37250, 37300, 37350, 37400, 37450, 37500, 37550, 37600, 37650, 37700, 37750, 37800, 37850, 37900, 37950, 38000, 38050, 38100, 38150, 38200, 38250, 38300, 38350, 38400, 38450, 38500, 38550, 38600, 38650, 38700, 38750, 38800, 38850, 38900, 38950, 39000, 39050, 39100, 39150, 39200, 39250, 39300, 39350, 39400, 39450, 39500, 39550, 39600, 39650, 39700, 39750, 39800, 39850, 39900, 39950, 40000, 40050, 40100, 40150, 40200, 40250, 40300, 40350, 40400, 40450, 40500, 40550, 40600, 40650, 40700, 40750, 40800, 40850, 40900, 40950, 41000, 41050, 41100, 41150, 41200, 41250, 41300, 41350, 41400, 41450, 41500, 41550, 41600, 41650, 41700, 41750, 41800, 41850, 41900, 41950, 42000, 42050, 42100, 42150, 42200, 42250, 42300, 42350, 42400, 42450, 42500, 42550, 42600, 42650, 42700, 42750, 42800, 42850, 42900, 42950, 43000, 43050, 43100, 43150, 43200, 43250, 43300, 43350, 43400, 43450, 43500, 43550, 43600, 43650, 43700, 43750, 43800, 43850, 43900, 43950, 44000, 44050, 44100, 44150, 44200, 44250, 44300, 44350, 44400, 44450, 44500, 44550, 44600, 44650, 44700, 44750, 44800, 44850, 44900, 44950, 45000, 45050, 45100, 45150, 45200, 45250, 45300, 45350, 45400, 45450, 45500, 45550, 45600, 45650, 45700, 45750, 45800, 45850, 45900, 45950, 46000, 46050, 46100, 46150, 46200, 46250, 46300, 46350, 46400, 46450, 46500, 46550, 46600, 46650, 46700, 46750, 46800, 46850, 46900, 46950, 47000, 47050, 47100, 47150, 47200, 47250, 47300, 47350, 47400, 47450, 47500, 47550, 47600, 47650, 47700, 47750, 47800, 47850, 47900, 47950, 48000, 48050, 48100, 48150, 48200, 48250, 48300, 48350, 48400, 48450, 48500, 48550, 48600, 48650, 48700, 48750, 48800, 48850, 48900, 48950, 49000, 49050, 49100, 49150, 49200, 49250, 49300, 49350, 49400, 49450, 49500, 49550, 49600, 49650, 49700, 49750, 49800, 49850, 49900, 49950, 50000, 50050, 50100, 50150, 50200, 50250, 50300, 50350, 50400, 50450, 50500, 50550, 50600, 50650, 50700, 50750, 50800, 50850, 50900, 50950, 51000, 51050, 51100, 51150, 51200, 51250, 51300, 51350, 51400, 51450, 51500, 51550, 51600, 51650, 51700, 51750, 51800, 51850, 51900, 51950, 52000, 52050, 52100, 52150, 52200, 52250, 52300, 52350, 52400, 52450, 52500, 52550, 52600, 52650, 52700, 52750, 52800, 52850, 52900, 52950, 53000, 53050, 53100, 53150, 53200, 53250, 53300, 53350, 53400, 53450, 53500, 53550, 53600, 53650, 53700, 53750, 53800, 53850, 53900, 53950, 54000, 54050, 54100, 54150, 54200, 54250, 54300, 54350, 54400, 54450, 54500, 54550, 54600, 54650, 54700, 54750, 54800, 54850, 54900, 54950, 55000, 55050, 55100, 55150, 55200, 55250, 55300, 55350, 55400, 55450, 55500, 55550, 55600, 55650, 55700, 55750, 55800, 55850, 55900, 55950, 56000, 56050, 56100, 56150, 56200, 56250, 56300, 56350, 56400, 56450, 56500, 56550, 56600, 56650, 56700, 56750, 56800, 56850, 56900, 56950, 57000, 57050, 57100, 57150, 57200, 57250, 57300, 57350, 57400, 57450, 57500, 57550, 57600, 57650, 57700, 57750, 57800, 57850, 57900, 57950, 58000, 58050, 58100, 58150, 58200, 58250, 58300, 58350, 58400, 58450, 58500, 58550, 58600, 58650, 58700, 58750, 58800, 58850, 58900, 58950, 59000, 59050, 59100, 59150, 59200, 59250, 59300, 59350, 59400, 59450, 59500, 59550, 59600, 59650, 59700, 59750, 59800, 59850, 59900, 59950, 60000, 60050, 60100, 60150, 60200, 60250, 60300, 60350, 60400, 60450, 60500, 60550, 60600, 60650, 60700, 60750, 60800, 60850, 60900, 60950, 61000, 61050, 61100, 61150, 61200, 61250, 61300, 61350, 61400, 614

LAINING

LOCAL OR NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION SERVICE

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS



LOVELL

for CONSTRUCTION

Thresholds give sharp boost to wage inflation in November

Melvyn Westlake says inflation accelerated sharply last month as weekly packets were boosted by the threshold payments...

Table with columns: Month, Index, % change over 12 months, % change over 3 months at annual rate. Rows include Oct, Nov, Dec for 1973 and 1974.

The following are the index numbers for basic rates of wages for all manual workers in all industries and services...

Table with columns: Hourly earnings (1972=100), % change over 12 months, % change over 3 months at annual rate. Rows include Oct, Nov, Dec for 1973 and 1974.

consequently triggered that month. The November earnings are thus likely to show some reversal of the downward trend...

But, it is also possible that with the downturn in industrial output, overtime and bonuses have also been sharply reduced...

There are now a large number of wage demands pending, including the miners, electricity supply manual workers, post office employees and car workers...

The local authority manual workers, who traditionally set the pace in each annual round of negotiations, have already won a wage award with a 12.5 per cent increase...

OECD has a plan with in pay policy. Continued from page 1. Further action to increase demand should not be considered in spite of the unresolved inflation problem...

OECD has a plan with in pay policy. Continued from page 1. Further action to increase demand should not be considered in spite of the unresolved inflation problem...

CBI appeals for crisis warning to workers

Industrial leaders last night issued an urgent appeal to the Government and the trade unions to help them get it across to the man on the shop floor...

After the December meeting of the Confederation of British Industry Mr Campbell Adamson, the director-general, said that the consequences of failure would be greater inflation, increasing unemployment, more bankruptcies, and even a breakdown in the fabric of society...

Companies wanted to be able to sell their products and invest in new plant and machinery. But many companies had told the confederation that they could no longer consider new investment plans...

Prices were no longer being pushed up by imports and oil, but by domestic factors over which we had control—particularly if increases in incomes were matched by increases in productivity...

Mr Kenneth Cook, managing director of Midlands BRS said yesterday: "We have never asked for an increase of this size before. It is quite horrific but we have no alternative..."

US minister predicts end of official gold price

Mr Jack Bennett, Under-Secretary for Monetary Affairs at the United States Treasury, said it was probable that the Administration will propose legislation to Congress next year on a packet of monetary reform measures...

Such a move would pave the way for the United States Treasury to revalue its 276 million ounces of gold reserves in line with free market prices. Mr Bennett added that he was hopeful that international agreements would shortly be reached permitting the international monetary fund to sell gold...

Other changes that were likely to be agreed included abandoning restrictions on what countries do with their gold holdings; abolishing IMF rules concerning official payments in gold; and lifting all impediments in the way of free IMF gold sales...

Mr Bennett acknowledged that the agreement with the French to allow countries to revalue their gold reserves could play a role in assisting countries finance their payments deficits. Group of Text's future, page 19

Lord Stokes gloomy about 1975 as BLMC passes final dividend

After losing £16.6m in the first half of its last financial year, British Leyland made profits of nearly £19m in the second half up to September 30. It thus ended the year with a profit of £2.3m before tax.

However, this modest profit was only a fraction of the £51.3m that BL made in the previous year and the group plunged back into losses again in the first two months of this year, because of strikes.

BL is not paying a final dividend and yesterday Lord Stokes, the chairman, said it was "impossible to be optimistic" about motor industry prospects in 1975.

Leyland was a victim of rampant inflation as well as strikes and he could not guarantee that there would not be redundancies. News that BL is passing its final dividend, together with Lord Stokes' sombre assessment of the future prompted a further 1/2p fall in the share price to 6 1/2p yesterday. At this level, BL has an equity value in the stock market of £351m against this year's highest level of about £136m.

Bowater have stake in finance group

Bowater Corporation has emerged as the holder of a strategic shareholding in Charterhouse Group, the financial and industrial concern which controls Charterhouse Japhet, a City accepting house.

Over a period of 18 months last year and in the early part of this year Bowater built up its stake in Charterhouse to almost 10 per cent, just below the level at which it would have to be required to reveal its identity. The stake has been registered in a nominee name.

Recently, however, Charterhouse has increased its equity base as a result of its bid for Charterhouse Investment Trust, and the Bowater stake has now been diluted to just over 8 per cent.

Mr John Vaughan, chairman of Charterhouse, said yesterday that he did not know what Bowater's intentions were in building up its holding. Secretary of State, Mr Horam, deputy chairman and managing director of Bowater, declined to comment on whether or not Bowater was the holder.

British Gas in clash over N Sea supplies

A row is about to break out between the British Gas Corporation and two French oil companies over delays in the delivery of gas from the Frigg fields in the Northern North Sea.

The French companies, Total and Elf, have told British Gas that because of delays in the construction of a concrete production platform in Scotland Frigg gas cannot be expected to come ashore before 1977.

British Gas has called special talks with the two companies to remind them they are contracted to bring the gas ashore in 1976. The corporation is pressing ahead with the construction of a reception terminal at St Fergus and an extension of the transmission system so that the new gas supplies can be fed into the UK network.

"We expect to complete these works on schedule by early 1976 when we had originally hoped to have the Frigg gas coming ashore. We do not accept that the gas cannot be landed before 1977", said a corporation spokesman. Total and Elf are suffering the same sort of delays that have dogged other companies in the development of oil from the Northern North Sea.

BRS to raise haulage rates by 25 per cent

British Road Services, the largest haulage company in the country, is increasing its rates by 25 per cent almost immediately. The move will inevitably lead to a further round of price increases by the manufacturing industries which comprise the bulk of BRS customers.

Mr Kenneth Cook, managing director of Midlands BRS said yesterday: "We have never asked for an increase of this size before. It is quite horrific but we have no alternative..."

French deficit down

France's trade deficit in the first 11 months of this year was 16,123m francs (about £1,463m), which means the figure for the year should be well under 20,000m francs, Mr Norbert Seggan, the French Foreign Trade Minister, said.

French buy 500 UK petrol outlet

Five hundred VIP petrol stations in Britain, controlled by Occidental Oil, and a further 200 in West Germany have been sold to Elf, the French oil company for about £25m (£10.5m). Elf, which currently has no stake in the United Kingdom petrol market, will have the right to use the VIP trade mark. The French company already sells its lubricants in the United Kingdom.

How Standard and Chartered help you with your business in Malaysia

If you have business in Malaysia, the Chartered Bank can offer you a full and comprehensive service with a network of no less than 35 of our own branches and offices to cover the whole country. Each one is ready to help you with the same professionalism and depth of local knowledge that characterises the Bank throughout Asia.

Price code widens relief

The new Price Code, announced yesterday after over a month of discussions between industry and Mrs Shirley Williams, the Secretary of State for Prices, contains alterations aimed at improving industrial efficiency and protecting jobs, the Government says.

How the markets moved

Table showing market movements for various commodities and currencies. Columns include: Commodity, Price, Change. Rows include: Rises (Ass Port Cement, BP, Beecham Gp, etc.), Falls (Berioforde, BLM, etc.), and Equities (Gilt-edged securities, Sterling, etc.).

THE POUND

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies. Columns include: Country, Bank buys, Bank sells. Rows include: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, US, Yugoslavia.

NFC facing a £10m loss this year

The State-owned National Freight Corporation is heading for losses approaching £10m this year after making consistent profits since it was set up in the late sixties.

The three-day week is thought to have hit the corporation's haulage and distribution activities to the tune of £6m-£7m and earnings from property are sharply down from around £6m to £1.5m.

Freightliners have deteriorated from a surplus of about £1m last year to about £200,000 but the system is highly vulnerable to railway industrial troubles such as current signals and the men's strikes which affect the key London-Harwich service.

US payments deficit surges ahead

The United States basic balance of payments deficit shot ahead to its second highest ever level in the third quarter of this year. The deficit totalled \$3,581m (£1,556.9m) against a deficit in the second quarter of \$2,479m.

The Department of Economic Commerce reported yesterday that the deficit for the first nine months of this year totalled \$14,265m (there was a first quarter surplus of \$1,795m compared with a \$287m deficit in the same 1973 period).

NVT chief's warning

Mr Dennis Poore, chairman of Norton Villiers Triumph, warned shareholders that time was running out for the British motor cycle industry. Unless a motor cycle industry, Secretary of State for Industry, left to take a decision on the choice is clear. "The choice is either public ownership and a three-factory industry or back to the two-factory plan with compensation for NVT."

On other pages

Table listing other pages in the newspaper. Columns include: Page number, Title. Rows include: Business appointments (20), Appointments vacant (20), Financial Editor (19), Financial news (20, 21, 22), Letters (18), Diary (19), Wall Street Market reports (22), Share prices (22).

Wolsey-Hughes

Table listing other pages in the newspaper. Columns include: Page number, Title. Rows include: Interim Statements: Caffyns (18), Danks Gowerton (19), Halma Group (20), Surcliffe Speakman & Co (20), Company Announcement: Gold Fields of South Africa (21).

On other pages

Table listing other pages in the newspaper. Columns include: Page number, Title. Rows include: Business appointments (20), Appointments vacant (20), Financial Editor (19), Financial news (20, 21, 22), Letters (18), Diary (19), Wall Street Market reports (22), Share prices (22).

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Removing the Crown Agents' mystique

surely one of the finer of the banking crisis the Government itself be forced to launch a for its own secondary That, in effect, is what Government's proposed injection of fresh capital Crown Agents is all it reflects the belief of ohn Cuckney, the new Crown Agent, that this official government body, its quirk, is a banking s which has been com- ly lacked an adequate base in the past.

In this case, however, the e does not appear to started with a run on its. Last December, de- by principals stood at just 500m of which the share is starting. While the g figure has apparently ed to around £200m this the fall has been made by an increase in deposits currencies.

s on the right-hand side a balance-sheet that the ms have really come home ost. Recipients of the Agent's money in the ary banking and financial s have included First s Finance Corporation, ph Investment Trust, Ster- Industries securities, at Commercial Trust and Mercantile. As a re- has had to stump up ea £40m and £50m as part a secondary bank rescue tion.

the property sector its iment stands at over t. It has been involved the failed Stern and Lyon ry groups and its com- ment in the private prop- erties of Messrs Ramon e and Jack Walker who instrumental in making a profit for the Agents in a property deal with the Office Pension Fund last along with a similar gain nensities.

the basis of unaudited sement account est pro- s of around £55m may e ary around some of the judicious investments in e and property. The resif- e £55m would provide v capital base of around implying a ratio of its to capital of around 10. perhaps, if somewhat in view of the Bank of nd's arrangements to pro- support facilities to the t of the whole of the t's liabilities, a key point osting foreign confidence. ratios do at least imple- al discipline a point times foregone by those argue their clearing bank e no longer have much ang.

ne of this, however, alters ct that there is something alous in the Government ing a secondary bank in first place and the assur- s that the Government will ately get its money back a somewhat mixed consol- for the taxpayer.

£16.1m to £23.2m at the trading level and a contribution net of financing charges of some £44m at the pre-tax level.

Sweden and Spain have apparently had good half years, too, so there has been a sharpish fall elsewhere and, needless to say, the main culprit has been the United Kingdom—sales up from £242m to £291m—where the tale is similar to that of the rest of the industry. Denmark, too, has been a soft spot, while the French operations have had a particularly sticky period in animal feedstuffs.

Meanwhile, second half trading is reasonably encouraging so far and net and the short-term cash position at the end of the half year was slightly up on the end March figure. With a prospective yield of 13.1 per cent, the shares at 45p now look to be much more reasonably valued in relation to the high level of overall earnings.

Interim: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £36.7m (-)
Sales £800m (€308m)
Pre-tax profits £16.4m (€16.2m)
Dividend gross 2p (1.7p)

admits it is becoming tougher to make realizations at the right price in present conditions. Second, there is banking, where profits rose by 21 per cent last year but where some difficulties have been experienced in the Eurodollar market with consequent restrictions on new advances. The overall bank balance sheet total is down from £83m to £81m.

Third, there is manufacturing, 23 per cent ahead last year to £3.7m, despite a downturn for Charcon's construction interests. The present year will clearly again be difficult for Charcon, and as the year progresses it could also become harder for Alenco where there are currently some signs of an orderly downturn. Newage, the engineering business, is still performing strongly, however, and is apparently headed for higher profits this year.

So while the spread of interests, taking in also insurance broking and distribution, is going to provide a useful underprop it seems unlikely to save Charterhouse from a number of problems. There is no reason for the shares, yielding 19 per cent at 24p, to vary much from their traditional pattern of keeping pace with the market as a whole. Meanwhile, Botwate's stake can do no harm, though it would be unwise to expect any developments in the short term.

Final: 1973-74 (1972-73)
Capitalization £15.7m
Pre-tax profits £7.8m (€7.18m)
Earnings per share 6.72p (6.59p)
Dividend gross 4.56p (4.33p)

Associated Dairies Longer-term attractions

Associated Dairies has sound defensive merits and is, paradoxically, a share which is doing well. At the root of this anomaly lies the yield, a pathetic 4.1 per cent at 54p, even assuming the maximum permitted increase in the dividend.

Dividend cover is extremely high on the first half showing it is unlikely to be eroded. True, a 27 per cent sales gain during the six months to end-October—a period when inflation was well into double figures and the group had five new openings—was hardly extraordinary. On the other hand four of the five new openings were not made until September. Front loading will, in consequence, continue to affect the second half profits performance; however, the worst of the impact of rising costs should be over, and there will be a big improvement in interest receipts—down from £291,000 to £115,000 at half-time in consequence of deliberate stock-building towards the end of the preceding year.

Something in the region of £8m pre-tax (as against £7.2m) is the likely outcome for the year, and as such Asda is selling on one of the lowest multiples in the sector, though it boasts one of the best profit records. That makes it a cheap buy—but only on a long-term view: the short-term shares will be vulnerable to every setback in the market.

Interim: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £19.1m
Sales £93.8m (€73.9m)
Pre-tax profits £3.62m (€3.41p)
Dividend gross 1.49p (1.14p)

Charterhouse Tougher times ahead

No surprises from Charterhouse Group, which full year profit increase of 91 per cent falls to almost nothing if one ignores the £656,000 adjustment to the 1972-73 figures. But while the divisional breakdown for 1973-74 shows steady trading profits across the board, pulled back to some extent by higher interest charges, there must be several areas of concern in the present year.

Development and venture capital is one. A substantial part of profits in this division derives from realizations of existing investments (there were two last year), and Charterhouse

Fodens Concern about liquidity

An odd picture emerges at Fodens, where a head-long fall in the share price and a sharp drop in yield elsewhere in the stratosphere has been signalling problems for some time. Yesterday's news of short-term liquidity difficulties appeared to fall short of the most pessimistic expectation, although it sent the share price another 3 1/2p to 10p. The group was not revealing the fate of the dividend, which, at 9.3p gross per share last year could still be adequately covered by net profits in the current year.

The shortfall in interim pre-tax profits is relatively modest at 164 per cent, although the first quarter gained some extra bounce from the comeback after the three-day week. From then on conditions worsened, with production cut back by 60 to 40 per cent a week over the past couple of months after a collapse in domestic demand for commercial vehicles in September-October. But the group is laying emphasis on the mix rather than the quantity of production, with higher margin exports, defence contracts and dump trucks now accounting for around 60 as against under 40 per cent of output.

That concentration, Fodens reckons might be enough to tide them over the worst of the depression in the United Kingdom commercial vehicles market.

But overshadowing everything is the liquidity position. Fodens has spent £3m on a new plant over the past couple of years. The last balance sheet showed the annual net cash requirement at £2.6m met mainly from short-term loans.

Bank borrowings. While the present low level of production appears to be sufficient to keep the group in profit, some long-term funding is now essential.

Interim: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £0.79m
Sales £15.1m (€11.4m)
Pre-tax profits £0.425m (€0.51m)

Group of 10 reemerges with a new importance

The Group of 10, which in the last couple of years has been pushed into the background by at first the Group of 20 and later the Group of 5, is now bouncing back as it has become a forum for hammering out international economic agreements.

There has been no shortage of brilliant ideas in recent years on how best to reform the international monetary system, but time and again the lack of efficient institutional arrangements has thwarted the prospects of having bright concepts translated into reality.

The Group of 10 was fortunately in place as an existing and experienced organization when the regime of fixed exchange rates crashed in 1971. It was because this group could work effectively that it was possible for leading countries to reach agreement in December, 1971, on an important realignment of exchange rates.

But the Group of 10, consisting as it does of the finance ministers of the main western industrial countries and Japan (Switzerland has always enjoyed special observer status), has often been seen as an unrepresentative international body. To make it more representative and to mollify the complaints of developing nations, the group has expanded to 20 ministers in 1972.

The new Group of 20 was charged with the task of reforming the Bretton Woods system. It was soon realized, however, that the group was far too big and unwieldy to ensure quick action at times of crisis. When all officials, deputies and special observers were counted, it was found that formal meetings of the Group of 20 demanded conference rooms that could seat fully 400 delegates.

To ensure some quick action on urgent matters the finance ministers of the United States, France, Britain, West Germany and Japan started meeting and each meeting was followed by a special diplomatic message to the participating members of the Group of 20 who were left out of the special Group of 5 sessions.

By last spring the inaction within the Group of 20 had reached the point where most people agreed that the body served little purpose. The last session of the Group of 20 was held in Washington last summer and coincided with a political and financial crisis in Italy.

At a dinner party during the Group of 20 meeting the ministers of the Group of 10 met informally. They decided to permit countries to use gold as collateral in international loans and to filter through to this agency from the Group of 10.

The Group of 5 met again, however, at the express invitation of Dr Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, just before this year's meeting of the International Monetary Fund. The diplomatic protests from those excluded from this meeting were greater than ever before.

To patch up all the diplomatic problems produced over the holding of sessions of the Group of 5, new arrangements have been worked out. A new Governing Council of the IMF has been created consisting of 20 members.

The Group of 5 will meet quietly in the future, but it will be the old Group of 10 which actually takes decisions.

And the way things are now shaping up suggests that the Group of 10 will enjoy more importance than ever before. The group has for the time being effectively been entrusted with dealing with financial matters relating to both general monetary reform and petrodollar recycling.

It is expected that the group's decisions will be submitted to the governing Council of 20 of the IMF and later, should the need arise, by the full annual meeting of governors of the IMF.

In the energy area the Group of 10's role now spreads beyond the confines of financial matters to include the members of the special International Energy Agency, whose task it is to coordinate the policies of

leading oil consuming nations with regard to both energy conservation and the formulation of joint views in preparation for a conference with the main oil producers. But the French are members of the Group of 10.

According to most senior United States officials, it was agreed last week at the Franco-United States summit in Martinique, that French views on matters dealt with by the International Energy Agency will be filtered through to this agency from the Group of 10.

A special working party of the group is now actively working on plans for a special petrodollar recycling facility for the leading oil consuming countries. This working party will finalize its proposals in Washington on January 8 and 9. On January 10 the deputies of the Group of 10 meet for the start of a three-day session to hammer-out agreements on the recycling question and the IMF's role in recycling, as well as on monetary reform issues.

Then the Group of 10 meets at ministerial level on January 14 to finalize agreements that will be presented for ratification, rather than for negotiation, to a three-day meeting, starting on January 15 of the interim council of 20 of the IMF.

According to senior United States Treasury officials there is a good chance now that the January 14 Group of 10 meeting will be able to formulate agreements on a special recycling facility, on a modified expansion of the IMF's present recycling facility, mainly for use by developing countries; on increasing the IMF's ability to use its general lending facilities; on revising the quota of IMF members; on amending the IMF's articles effectively to reduce the position of gold to that of just another commodity; and on lifting restrictions on countries being able to buy, as well as sell, gold.

Price stability without tears

One thing of which the Government cannot be accused is laggardness in taking good advice from the right quarter. No sooner had suggestions been made in this space last Thursday for a stabilization plan, including use of the tax mechanism, to arrest the upward march of prices than it was reported that the Cabinet were studying just such an idea as a matter of high priority.

This being so and the description of the techniques given here last week having been somewhat compressed, fuller discussion of their merits is needed. Certainly reactions to last week's proposals suggest that they have not been universally understood.

The proposed stabilization plan contained three stages, the second of which is rather novel. The first stage is simply a non-statutory real-terms pay standard, independently compiled and unratified, during which no principal pay settlements would be allowed.

Instead, employers would be permitted at quarterly intervals to compensate employees for any rise—excluding tax and inflation—price changes—in the official retail price index over the previous three months. High-friction machinery would also be set up to deal with special cases within a predetermined annual "budget" for all such cases.

The main purpose of this strict which would last perhaps six months or until, say, 5 per cent of the labour force had infringed its terms, is to arrest the present accelerating disintegration of the social contract as currently understood. It would also provide a breeding space for consultations with employers and union leaders leading to stage two, based on macro-economic targets agreed in the NEDC.

The central feature of stage two would be a tax-like flat percentage levy on pay packets (and all other payments) coupled with payment back to employers—in the form of a flat percentage payroll subsidy—of the sums raised by the levy. The amount of the levy and the subsidy, which would be calculated as a percentage of gross earnings before all deductions, would be increased monthly to reflect the excess rise in pay in the previous month.

The levy for normal employees, and others, subject to PAYE, would be collected through either the income tax or the national insurance contributions machinery. Those not liable to PAYE would pay the levy as part of their end-year tax assessments. This is necessary for equity, although this group is not important to the economic mechanics of the scheme.

The precise calculation of how much of each month's increase in money earnings is "excessive", that is, adding to unit costs of production, is complicated and would need to be seen to be done by a body whose impartiality and objectivity would be widely accepted. But in essence the calculation would start from the Department of Employment's monthly index of average earnings and then subtract the normal national average gain in productivity and discount changes in earnings attributable to changes in unemployment and overtime working.

The payment back to employers as a payroll subsidy of all the money raised should on average just neutralize the extra cost to employers of excess increases in money earnings. Provided that import prices are passive and that the subsidy does not go into profit margins, then prices will cease to rise on average, although substantial and discount changes in prices can and should continue.

Competition in conditions of comparatively weak markets should ensure that the payroll subsidy does not go into profit margins. But, if that assumption appeared insecure, government could take direct steps to stop such abuses.

Some recovery in profit margins from their present position is, of course, part of the Government's existing economic tactics as set out in Mr Healey's November budget. The following points need particular appreciation. The scheme differs fundamentally from other proposals for using the tax mechanism, such as the Party's proposals in the last election, because there is no attempt to tailor the levy to individual groups of workers according to the size of pay settlements which they have achieved for themselves.

That would be statutory pay restraint and would invite direct strike action against the

tax machinery, with truly alarming consequences. The general levy is entirely in the spirit of Mr Healey's warning in the Budget that, if voluntary restraints through the social contract fails, he will be obliged to apply fiscal restraints, although the levy-subsidy operation would not itself lead to the extra unemployment which the Chancellor threatened.

Individual real incomes will hardly be affected. Whether the man belongs to the category of the strong and the lucky who have been and might still be able to secure large nominal increases in pay or to the category of the weak and unfortunate who cannot protect themselves, the levy-subsidy operation will make little direct difference to the purchasing power of his income. What has previously lost in rising prices—which can anyway be seen as a form of tax imposed by inflation—he will now lose on the levy. There is no bias between savers and spenders nor much between people with different spending patterns, since the purchasing power of incomes, whether saved or spent, is unaffected and since relative prices will remain as before. Wives will gain from those husbands who are slow in passing on increases in pay.

Employers will continue to have just the same incentive that they had under normal conditions to bargain to resist excessive pay claims—at least until the subsidies come to represent a large slice of labour costs. Groups of workers will run just as much risk as now of forcing their employers to

Peter Jay Economics Editor

Counting the cost of EEC membership for Britain

Britain's attempt to renegotiate the terms of its membership of the EEC is rapidly moving away from being an argument about the general philosophical standpoint of the various countries involved on what the nature of the Community should be, and is becoming instead a battle of slide rules.

Nowhere is this more apparent than in the debate about the size of the United Kingdom's contribution to the Community budget.

This is not only because it is the size of our budgetary contribution which many critics of our continued presence in the EEC believe imposes an unfair burden on this country's balance of payments; it is also because the issue is, by its nature, one where it is possible to cut.

Any scheme which tries to deal with this problem, then, must have built into it some notion of what would be a fair bill for the United Kingdom to pay, a prediction of how much the current arrangements will deviate from this and a mechanism for putting right any injustices which occur. It is these points which form the centre of a recent study by J. R. Dodsworth for the Federal Trust, which provides the best current analysis of the claims of the United Kingdom and its EEC partners.

In particular, the paper actually opens up the workings which produce its conclusion, in the way that it lines up the case of the recent Treasury calculations presented in Brussels as part of the British case

and which assessed the United Kingdom net contribution at 760m units of account (£317m). This was much lower than most estimates made before we joined, but still more than seems fair from a country which is near the bottom of the league table of income per capita.

One reason given for the fall in the estimate of how much we shall have to pay is the way in which world food prices have moved up towards (and in some cases over) prices in the EEC. In fact, as Dodsworth points out, the best current estimate, at around 400m units of account, is well within the range of guesses which emerged from earlier calculations such as the 1971 White Paper (240m units of account) up to one estimate of 843m.

However, much as events may have moved in favour of the Common Agricultural Policy, there is still no way of avoiding the fact that it is going to result in significantly more VAT into Community funds by any state such as the United Kingdom which is heavily dependent on imports of food from outside the EEC.

Even more expensive, however, will be our continued tendency to go on importing industrial products on which tariffs must be paid. Dodsworth estimates our contribution to the Community from this source at around 837m units of account, slightly more than was assumed in the recent Treasury calculations. The net result is the broad sweep of their figures.

Where the Dodsworth estimates differ from those of the

Treasury, and where other nations in the EEC are likely to have doubts about our claim to be hard done by, is in the third, and less predictable, component of our contribution.

This is the amount which we pay in through value added tax "top up" to the Community's funds to a level where we can meet expenditure. The more the EEC spends the more VAT it will have to ask its member states to levy on its behalf and, within limits, VAT cannot overtake prices in the tax, in the sense of being linked to the gross national product of the country paying it.

This tendency for a large VAT component to benefit the United Kingdom is further reinforced by the fact that most estimates suggest that the money that is collected, the more money that will be spent on projects such as the Community's regional fund.

Thus, while Dodsworth estimates that we shall pay considerably more VAT into Community coffers (between 135m and 481m units of account, compared with the Treasury estimate of only 35m) he thinks we shall do much better in terms of receipts. Whereas the Treasury has suggested these at 560m units of account, Dodsworth suggests that they are likely to be at least 633m, and may go as high as 1,062m.

However, although he points out that the receipts which the United Kingdom, or any other country, stands to receive make a significant impact on how fairly it is treated by the system, it is in terms of the contribution side that he seeks to find a formula for fairness.

He examines two alternative schemes. One of these involves allowing member states to keep a larger proportion of their customs duties, which he shows to be an ineffective way of cutting the United Kingdom contribution, and the other a system of repayment to any country which can be shown to have paid in more than its fair share of its national income.

Whether scheme such as this, as the nearest possible approach to tying contributions to national income, will be what the United Kingdom finally presses for remains to be seen.

Frank Vogl

price the firm and so their jobs out of the market, if they press too hard.

Those incentives and deterrents may well be much too weak now; but they will not be further weakened by the levy-subsidy operation.

Equally, the scheme provides no direct disincentive to excessive pay claims, since it will still suit the private interests of strong groups of workers to try to keep ahead of the game. In this case, ahead of rising levies rather than of rising prices.

What then is the gain? First, prices will stop rising, thus enabling the currency, to resume its normal economic function, while also deterring speculative speculation and stabilizing export prices.

Secondly—and this is the whole gamble—it just may make it possible to sell to the public at large, including the majority of working people, the basic collective interest in pay restraint. It is more strictly non-monopolistic pay bargaining.

Part of the problem at present is that people's private fears of being devoured by soaring price increases stand in the way of the necessary bold act of faith that their restraint will return to them through the restraint of others in the form of more stable prices.

It must finally be repeated yet again—the only cure for inflation is disinflationary monetary and fiscal policies, which are presupposed as accompanying the stabilization plan offered here.

It can then be said, if anyone prefers to put it that way, that the real effect of the stabilization plan is to reduce the amount and duration of the unemployment concurrent with disinflation. Even if the stabilization plan is not ultimately to reconcile long-term full employment with free collective bargaining, if the latter be used to raise the rewards of any groups of workers above the value of their product.

But if by stabilizing prices it successfully prepares the ground for a stage three in which the levies and subsidies ceased simultaneously and an era of comparatively effective voluntary pay restraint based on an initially zero rate of inflation can begin, then the stagflationary doomsday which now seems so inevitable within a few years may be postponed.

And if that, in turn, is used constructively to build wider understanding of the nature and causes of inflation, while strictly shunning any new inflationary bouts of fiscal and monetary policy, doomsday may be put off ever longer. The chances are very slim; but governments have to keep trying.

Benham American Unce

modest pre-tax advance by nam to £16m at the im stage may have fallen or so short of market s, but by and large the gs and roundabouts of the ing half are very much one might have expected. he plus side, then, in comed Union, bouncing back in the rest of the United s supermarket trade with mp in first-half profits of per cent. And so far as nham is concerned that nts for slightly more than whole of an advance from

At the Retail Consortium, which reports that retailing groups like the Multiple Shops Federation, one of Weir's priorities will be to lobby for the defence of margins as the Government presses home price controls on basics such as bread.

Weir now finds himself in the same boat as Methven, who this time last year had left ICI in the North and was not only trying to get together a staff in new offices but trying to find a house for his wife and family.

last official count, would have been sufficient to wipe out some of his predecessors, in addition to which he got to know at Chatham House all sorts of useful people, such as Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Potter, a witty and practical man—keeps St Kilda's sheep rather than mowing his lawn, maintains that he is a quiet, shy soul. It was an impression which was reinforced by his need to be locked away in the Halifax's commanding new northern fortress.

However, his elevation to chairman of the society, a deliberate move to allow him more time to make an important contribution to the larger needs of the building society movement as a whole, will soon make him a more familiar and forthcoming figure.

He will take over from

Leonard Boyle as chairman of the Building Societies' Association.

Should Dennis Poore ever tire of the motor bike business, he has a great future as a blurb writer.

As without precedent in the annals of British industry it is how the Norton Villiers Triumph chairman describes the sad story of the Meriden motor cycle cooperative in a 37-page booklet just produced for shareholders.

As with most blurbs, the book that follows is powdery near as racey, for with Tony Benn due to make a statement in the Commons tomorrow on the future, if any, of the British motor cycle industry Poore and NVT have to tread softly.

Two lessons are to be learnt from the two-year Meriden saga. The first is that "if there is to be a system wherein public money is used... then the administration and control which follows this investment must be free from political pressure."

NVT's plans for Meriden were "not ruined by the sit-in itself but by being prevented from dealing with it by ordinary means."

The second lesson concerns the right to employment. The notion that a man has the right to work in the same job, in the same place, doing the same thing for an increasing reward, irrespective of the standard and contribution of his work, will surely send Britain into the decline forecast by the Hudson Institute. The first, Over to you, Tony Benn.

Business Diary: Redmayne shops at Co-op • Shy shepherd

Year's Day becomes the Director of the Retail Consortium, chairman Lord Redmayne said yesterday.

aged 41 already has spent in pushing the shop- s interest. For the past has been a member of the Consumer Protection Committee.

is the statutory body, dished by the Fair Trading Act form a buffer between Methven, the director- g of the Office of Fair and his minister, Mrs Secretary of State for Consumer Protection.

en has to submit his ndations to the CPAC to have their say be- the paper lands on Mrs s's desk.

the committee's first s. Methven has been s them deliberately non- s against unfair terms and s of sale (such as "No s" notices).

committee is now about to on another Methven or limiting mail order s for money well s delivery. This, too, is s, for Methven has s on business, with- outing trouble on the s.

who is secretary of the sive Wholesale Society Co-operative Bank, s with the Fair s and Mr Williams.

essarily argued the s Williams's precedes s Geoffrey Howe, for s under the Act to s legislation which had

classified the CVS as a trade association. The Co-op likes to think of itself as a multiple trader with 275 voluntary members in the localities.

The classification meant that under the Retail Trade Practices Act, the CVS had to register all recommendations to members.

At the Retail Consortium, which reports that retailing groups like the Multiple Shops Federation, one of Weir's priorities will be to lobby for the defence of margins as the Government presses home price controls on basics such as bread.

Weir now finds himself in the same boat as Methven, who this time last year had left ICI in the North and was not only trying to get together a staff in new offices but trying to find a house for his wife and family.

last official count, would have been sufficient to wipe out some of his predecessors, in addition to which he got to know at Chatham House all sorts of useful people, such as Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Potter, a witty and practical man—keeps St Kilda's sheep rather than mowing his lawn, maintains that he is a quiet, shy soul. It was an impression which was reinforced by his need to be locked away in the Halifax's commanding new northern fortress.

However, his elevation to chairman of the society, a deliberate move to allow him more time to make an important contribution to the larger needs of the building society movement as a whole, will soon make him a more familiar and forthcoming figure.

He will take over from



The Halifax's Raymond Potter: doesn't let the grass grow.

in May) but also because of his unusual background for a building society. The first is that most building society leaders move up through the ranks after a lifetime's service with one society. Not so Potter, who, after a good year spent several years with the Royal Institute of International Affairs before joining the Halifax.

So he does have a broader perspective than some of his counterparts in other societies who are the cats' whiskers when it comes to the job of attracting savings in and getting mortgages out, but are possibly a little blinkered on the wider issues such as the role of building societies in the nation's economy.

Not only that, his early training has made him more familiar with the corridors of power than some of his predecessors, in addition to which he got to know at Chatham House all sorts of useful people, such as Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Potter, a witty and practical man—keeps St Kilda's sheep rather than mowing his lawn, maintains that he is a quiet, shy soul. It was an impression which was reinforced by his need to be locked away in the Halifax's commanding new northern fortress.

However, his elevation to chairman of the society, a deliberate move to allow him more time to make an important contribution to the larger needs of the building society movement as a whole, will soon make him a more familiar and forthcoming figure.

He will take over from

Meriden story

Should Dennis Poore ever tire of the motor bike business, he has a great future as a blurb writer.

As without precedent in the annals of British industry it is how the Norton Villiers Triumph chairman describes the sad story of the Meriden motor cycle cooperative in a 37-page booklet just produced for shareholders.

As with most blurbs, the book that follows is powdery near as racey, for with Tony Benn due to make a statement in the Commons tomorrow on the future, if any, of the British motor cycle industry Poore and NVT have to tread softly.

Two lessons are to be learnt from the two-year Meriden saga. The first is that "if there is to be a system wherein public money is used... then the administration and control which follows this investment must be free from political pressure."

NVT's plans for Meriden were "not ruined by the sit-in itself but by being prevented from dealing with it by ordinary means."

The second lesson concerns the right to employment. The notion that a man has the right to work in the same job, in the same place, doing the same thing for an increasing reward, irrespective of the standard and contribution of his work, will surely send Britain into the decline forecast by the Hudson Institute. The first, Over to you, Tony Benn.

David Blake

Danks Gowerton LIMITED

Manufacturers of Steel Sheet and Plate from Coil, Pressure Vessels, Desalters for North Sea Oil, Industrial Boilers, Fork Lift Trucks and Mechanical Handling Equipment.

Summary of unaudited results	Six months ended	Six months ended
Six months ended September 30th 1974.	Sept. 30 '74	Sept. 30 '73
SALES	4,287,000	3,392,000
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	1,347,000	1,000,000
TAXATION AT 52%	180,000	154,000
PROFIT AFTER TAX	1,167,000	846,000
DIVIDENDS PAID	210,000	210,000
RETAINED EARNINGS	1,406,000	1,140,000
EARNINGS PER SHARE	4.32p	3.725p

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 7p per share which will be paid on January 11th, 1975, to shareholders as at the close of business on January 10th, 1975.

The transfer books of the Company will be closed from January 11th, 1975, to January 15th, 1975, both days inclusive.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE INTERIM STATEMENT BY ARTHUR J. S. ROE, ESQ., J.P., CHAIRMAN:

Sales up by 26% and profits after tax up by 18%.

Group financing sufficient to sustain present growth and offset effects of current rate of inflation. Orders on hand for the Group at high level.

Substantial percentage of products of the Danks Division destined for North Sea Oil and gas projects.

Additional and improved facilities for production of slit coil will increase capacity of steel division.

National economic situation precludes predictions. Continued aim to expand turnover and profit.

Registered Office: 257 Halesowen Road, Netherton, Dudley, West Midlands DY2 9PB

SUTCLIFFE SPEAKMAN & CO LTD

INTERIM STATEMENT

The unaudited Group results for the half year ended 30th September, 1974 were as follows:

	Half year ended 30th Sept. 1974	Half year ended 30th Sept. 1973	Year ended 31st March 1974
Turnover	£'000's 2,088	£'000's 1,755	£'000's 3,500
Profit before taxation	181	135	258
Corporation tax @ 52% (See Note)	84	70	142
Profit after taxation	77	65	116
Ordinary dividends	22	18	42
Earnings per ordinary share	3.9p	3.2p	5.8p

NOTE: No adjustments have been made to take account of any change in taxation which may arise as a result of the provisions relating to stock valuation relief in the Finance Bill.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend for the current year of 1.096p per share (last year 0.875p per share) on the ordinary shares, exclusive of the associated tax credit. Shareholders will be given the option to take a cash dividend or shares in lieu for the whole or a part of such dividend. An announcement of the details of the option will be posted to shareholders on 23rd January, 1975.

A healthy order book has been maintained since the beginning of the financial year. The policy of increasing the proportion of business from overseas markets is being vigorously followed. For the second half of the financial year the Directors are looking for a continuation of the present level of high activity to achieve further improvements in profitability.

SANDERSON MURRAY & ELDER (Topmakers and Combers)

The volume of sales during the year was similar to the previous year but reflected increased values. Apart from the period of 3 day working, machinery activity was maintained at satisfactory levels.

Year ended 30th June	1974	1973
Turnover	£ 4,011,000	£ 2,987,000
Profit before Tax	155,152	154,520
Tax (including transfer to deferred taxation £28,000; 1973-£34,000)	55,923	38,929
Profit after Tax	99,229	115,591
Dividends	59,850	71,250
per share:		
Interim	1.875p	1.275p
Final payable 3 January 1975	1.275p	
(1973-paid as interim)	3.15p	3.75p

The textile industry here and abroad appears to be moving into a downward cycle of activity. New forward orders are not being placed with confidence, and until the flow of business improves through the industry lower levels of machinery activity are likely to continue. We are reducing stocks commensurate with this situation.

The South African subsidiary has exchanged contracts for the sale of its industrial property in Port Elizabeth. The consideration is £280,000 (approximately £172,000) realising slightly more than the valuation at June 1972 adopted in the subsidiary's accounts. The proceeds will be retained in the subsidiary's business as additional working capital.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Hovercraft fillip helps Westland Aircraft to a best-ever £6.6m

By Ashley Druker

Its helicopter division providing the major advance in the preceding year with nearly two-thirds of profits, this time round the Hovercraft and environmental sector provided the push, though helicopters are still the major contributor at Westland Aircraft.

Pre-tax profit for the 12 months to September 30 put on 20 per cent to a record £6.59m, and this Yeovil-based helicopter, Hovercraft, aircraft equipment

and light engineering group, forecasts a further increase in the current year. The "net" however, dropped from £3.35m to £2.17m after tax up from £2.17m to £3.54m.

Helicopters turned in £3.39m against £4.05m. Hovercraft stepped up from £517,000 to £1.7m (deriving from completion of some long-term contracts and this may not recur for some years), environmental control equipment for aircraft and allied products from £792,000 to £1.3m.

Pressures on UK margins keep Edbro in check

Making very little profit in the last three months of the preceding year, Edbro engineering group finished up 15 per cent higher at £1.6m. For the opening half to September 30 profits came out practically unchanged at £874,000 against £870,000 pre-tax on turnover up from £5.48m to £6.9m.

A major contribution came from an "exceptionally" good result in the European merchant

and trading operation, arising largely from additional agencies in transport equipment which were taken on during the course of the half-year.

For the rest of the year, Mr L. V. D. Tindale, the incoming chairman, finds it difficult to forecast the trend of events, but gives a reasonably stable climate, full-time results should show a measure of improvement on last year's record £1.6m.

S Osborn accent on export drive

Having roared ahead in last year's second-half, Samuel Osborn, the Sheffield special steel maker, while not hazarding a prediction on the current year, reports that all companies have good order books. But with steel a classic cyclical industry, Mr Bernard Cotton, chairman, says there are signs that there may be a drop in demand in the early part of 1975, which could restrict profits. Meanwhile, its drive for export orders has been intensified, aided by the group's firm overseas base.

Elsewhere, he refers to the fact that because of EEC membership, the group was able to raise prices for most of its steel products progressively through last year, and in turn is making good some of the erosion in profit margins brought about in Britain. The chief advantages of remaining within the EEC for the group was not only great opportunities for extending its sales



Mr Bernard Cotton, chairman of Samuel Osborn.

(more than half its tool exports last year went to Europe) but also the fact of operating in an internationally competitive atmosphere.

Within the group, a major benefit of the reshaping of its steel business in recent years has been the improved control over the physical volume of raw material and work in progress.

Fixed prices and costs crush Monk earnings

By David Mori

Fixed-price contracts taken about 18 months ago, before the present level of cost increases was envisaged had a disastrous effect on the half-time results of A. Monk, the Cheshire-based civil engineering and building contractors. The shares lost 4p to 20p yesterday.

Out of turnover expanded from £22.4m to £26.6m in the half to August 31 pre-tax profits slumped from £516,000 to £157,000, or from £314,000 to £63,000 attributable. But the dividend is up from 1.78p to 1.86p—the same net.

Threshold payments and the rise in the price of steel hit the company particularly hard. Material shortages and protracted deliveries (three-day week) coupled with the "indexation" application of the productivity deduction to the industry, aggravated matters.

Now the bulk of the fixed-price contracts has been completed and any contract of more than one year is now at a variable price. Previously the figure was two years.

But Mr F. Sullivan, chairman, is concerned at the apparent increasing unwillingness of government and public sector authorities to agree final values and make appropriate payments for work done.

Kettering Mtr agree 83p bid from Goodyear

Holders of a majority of the shares of Kettering Motor Service Group have agreed to a bid price of 83p cash a share from Goodyear Tyre & Rubber (GB). This puts a value on the company of £2.5m.

Holders of almost 56 per cent of the shares have accepted the price which is 15p better than yesterday's closing price. In addition, Kettering holders are offered a second interim payment of 2.72p making a total of 5.66p.

News of the talks broke in October when holders were advised to retain their shares. A scheme of arrangement has now been agreed under which SPA Factors, a Kettering subsidiary, will be bought by Kettering Tyre & Rubber. Kettering profits for the year to September 29 jumped from £452,000 to an unaudited £650,000.

Business appointments

CompAir has a new chairman

Mr Niall Macdiarmid has been made chairman of CompAir following the death of Mr J. F. Bolman. Mr Macdiarmid, who joined the CompAir board in October, 1973, is chairman of Sanderson Kayser, and also a director of Provincial Insurance and of Sketchley.

With the retirement of Mr P. M. Threlfall next March, Sir John Stewart-Clark, managing director of Philips Electrical, will become managing director of Eye of Cambridge. Sir John will be succeeded at Philips by Mr A. Foot, who will continue as managing director of Ada (Hullfax). It is proposed that Mr Threlfall will join the board of Philips Electronics and Associated Kears & Hatfield.

Mr D. W. Small and Mr P. N. Whitley have been appointed to the board of The Distillers Company. Mr Small is managing director of John Dewar & Sons and Mr Whitley is managing director of White Horse Distillers.

Mr D. L. Nicholson, a director, has been appointed vice-chairman of Rothmans International, Mr R. C. Wickenden, chief executive of Ferreras Rothmans, becomes acting managing director. Mr E. de Jeegere, of Tabacofina SA Belgium, has been made a director in succession to Mr E. G. Wouters.

Mr John Amorah has become financial director of Lloyds and Scottish Finance.

Mr I. W. Field joins the board of Joseph Lucas (Industries). Mr Denis Cookley has been made a director of Silvermines.

Sir Geoffrey C. Gibbs and Mr R. H. Senior are retiring from the board of Australia and New Zealand Banking Group.

Mr Charles Bell has been made president and chief executive of Viking Offshore Pipelines group. Mr E. G. Barnard becomes vice president and manager of the finance division of ICI.

Mr John Sidwell becomes chairman and Mr Maurice Hyatt chief executive of Market Location.

Mr B. Ewing has been appointed a director of Baxi Copy. Mr T. R. Chesterfield is to become the new chairman of BCA following the retirement of Mr M. S. W. Corrigan.

Mr Christopher Sheridan has joined the board of Samuel Montague.

Mr Simon Webber has been made director, finance and administration, of the British Steel Corporation's special steel division.

Mr Edward Redmond has been elected to the board of Buchan Meat Producers and appointed managing director.

Dr E. M. Hunt has been appointed chairman of Armour Hess Chemicals.

Mr Bruce Leaming has become an associate director of London metal brokers, Kestoff Wolff.

Mr I. P. Brown has been made overseas director of Revertex Holdings.

Mr F. R. Earle has been appointed managing director of Eastwood Chemical in succession to Mr D. D. Litton who has resigned through ill health. Mr Litton will continue as a member of the board.

Mr David Page is to join Foster Turner and Benson as head of financial advertising. Mr Colin Barry becomes account director of the recruitment division.

Mr Michael Haines, a partner in Thomson McLintock, is joining the Department of Industry on a two year secondment as a deputy director of the Industrial Development Unit.

Stock markets

Firmer tone continues in equities

The continued strength of the pound on the foreign exchange centres helped London's stock markets yesterday. Gilt were much quieter, but equities managed to extend their recent improvements by a few pence. Turnover in the share market remained very thin, however. Recorded bargains totalled only 4,908, which is well below the level of a "viable market".

The major news from the equity market came in the form of year-end results from BLMC, Britain's major motor manufacturer. The outcome for the year was not far away from market predictions and the shares were content to ease by 4p to yet another new low of 64p. The price for which the market—and industry—is waiting will come when Mr Benn addresses the House of Commons on the future of BLMC.

Other heavy engineers moved cautiously following the results from BLMC. GKN closed unchanged at 106p. Tubes added 4p to 129p, GEC 2p to 54p, and Plessey 2p to 42p.

Among the internationals, the fresh improvement in sterling brought a steadier tone—if not any great increase in buying pressure. ICI (125p), Beecham (120p), and Courtauld's (58p), all moved up. Unilever (17p) and Dunlop Holdings (24p) remained at overnight levels.

Gold shares again found supporters, in the wake of the accord between the United States and France on upvaluing official reserves. But turnover on this pitch was smaller yesterday. Gains in President Brand (22p), FS Geduld (22p) and President Steyn (119p) remained within the £1 range.

Oil shares, too, had a quieter

session. BP (216p) and Burmah Oil (106p) added a few pence but turnover was thin.

On the building pitch, disclosure that Slater Walker Securities has sold its stake in K. Costain went some way to explaining this week's rise in contracting shares. Shares in Costain closed 5p up at 85p, while Slater Walker Securities—helped also by confirmation of a Business News report of a substantial re-purchase of our standing loan stock—closed 1p up at 35p. But the building share pitch also saw shares in A. Monk fall sharply on lower interim profits.

Consumer shares had a quieter session. A dull spot was Cavenham, whose shares dipped to 45p following the first-half profits statement. Major scores managed to edge forward by a penny or so, in line with market.

Banks, financials and utilities had a quiet session, failed to move beyond overnight levels. Equity turnover on Dec 17, £35.1m (10,206 barg Active stocks yesterday) was to Exchange Telegraph Cons. Goldfields, Bats, Union Corp, Boots, Gus Cabbury, Commercial IC Gas, and BP.

Government bonds tend drift lower in quiet trading today, surrendering some of the gains made in recent sessions. Long-dated stocks with losses on the day of point, while short-dated finished a net 5/16 point. The news of Government backing for the Crown is tended to weaken confi-

Latest dividends

Company (and par value)	Div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Pre
Assoc. Dairies (25p) Int	1.5	1.13p	28/2	2.67	1.9
Baggeridge Brick (25p) Int	2.67	2.36	—	2.67	2.3
Brit Leyland (25p) Fin	1.38	—	—	0.74	1.1
Camden (25p) Int	1.75	17/3	—	5.2	5.2
Charterhouse Op (25p) Fin	3.25	3.08	—	4.55	4.3
Dorland (10p) Int	0.24	0.25	31/1	—	1.3
Edbro (Hedge) (25p) Int	2.23	1.9	30/12	—	6.4
Elec & Gen (25p) Int	0.67	0.62	3/2	—	1.4
GenCorp (25p) Int	9	6	2/4	—	19.1
Halcyon Inv (10p) Int	0.75	0.75	20/2	—	2.7
Halma (10p) Int	0.84	0.62	17/2	1.59p	1.4
Harrogate (25p) Int	1.96	1.96	3/4	—	1.7
A. Monk (25p) Int	1.86	1.78	31/1	—	5.7
Stanhope Gen (25p) Int	1.2	1	24/1	—	3.8
Sutcliffe Spkmn (25p) Int	1.63	1.25	—	—	3.8
Trafford Carpets (25p) Int	1.1	0.85	—	—	3.5
Vectis Stone (10p) Int	1.01	0.96	27/2	1.68	1.6
Westland Aircraft (25p) Int	2.22	1.90	—	3.54	3.15
Weston-Evans (20p) Int	1.22	1.22p	8/2	—	3.3p

† Adjusted for scrip. * Forecast.

AKZO and Philips' drug merger off

The plan of AKZO, the Dutch chemical and artificial fibre group, and Philips Lamps to combine their pharmaceutical divisions, first announced in June, has been called off after six months of talks. Had it come about the new giant would have been a combination of AKZO Pharma and Philips Duphar with 75 per cent owned by AKZO.

Turnover was expected to be in excess of £600m with 12,000 employees. Activities taken in would have been research, development, manufacturing, sales and service.

The reason given for shelving the plan is that the boards disagree about the likelihood of achieving a properly-integrated operation.

AKZO said the boards of the two companies intend to investigate whether it is possible to achieve another form of cooperation.

Du Pont expects earnings drop

G. I. Du Pont de Nemours expects lower earnings in 1974 despite at least a 15 per cent increase in sales. Mr Irving Shapiro, chairman, said in San Francisco. In 1973, it earned \$12.04 a share on sales of \$5,275.6m.

For the nine months, Du Pont's net profit declined to \$7.53 a share from \$9.11 a year before. Mr Shapiro said the lower profit would result from higher costs for raw materials and energy, supply shortages, and an accident at its methanol plant in Beaumont, Texas.—Renter.

WADE

Record Sales and Profits for Fifth Successive Year

Year to 31st July	1974	1973	1972
Sales	£200's 4,293	£000's 3,588	£000's 2,847
Profit before tax	703	581	456
Profit after tax	334	311	274
Earnings per share	4.425p	4.104p	3.619p
Dividend per share including Tax Credit	1.470p	1.400p	1.343p

The diversification and strength of your Company makes it well equipped to face the problems which lie ahead.
Anthony J. Wade (Chairman)
WADE POTTERIES LIMITED - STOKE-ON-TRENT

S. CASKET (HOLDINGS) LTD.

(Clothing Manufacturers, Distributors and Retailers)

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

	1974	1973
Sales (Net)	£ 6,661,781	£ 6,136,980
Trading Profit	970,840	824,080
Net Profit before Tax	805,802	702,077
Dividends—Net	69,269	68,950
Earnings per Share	9.30p	10.24p

Addressing the Annual General Meeting in Manchester the Chairman, Mr. Philip Casket, made the following points:—

- * Net Profit before Tax up by 14.8%
- * Record for the 12th successive year
- * Company now operates 64 retail shops

WOLSELEY-HUGHES LTD.

P.O. BOX 18, DROITWICH, WORCESTERSHIRE WR9 8ND.

Extracts from the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st July 1974.

The year started with high hopes and prospects of beating last year's record profits, but, in the event, the economic consequences of last October's Middle Eastern war detrimentally affected our business in several important respects.

With so much uncertainty surrounding the general economic situation, and the building and central heating industries, in which we are especially interested, it is increasingly difficult to predict, with any certainty, the levels of trading we shall achieve in the current year.

The group enjoys excellent relationships with its bankers, going back over very many years, and credit facilities have been arranged to provide working capital for the continued development of the business in the future. Great care being exercised over capital expenditure, but, certain important projects, merit to increase export potential, proceeding.

Exports have increased by 29.3% during the year 24.7% of the group manufactured products were exported.

Comparative figures to 31st July

	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
Sales	£'000's 21,060	£'000's 27,187	£'000's 33,853	£'000's 48,422	£'000's 56.2
Group profit before taxation	1,434	2,190	2,749	4,325	3.2
Taxation	579	847	1,106	1,898	1.7
Dividends, gross per share	4.27p	4.87p	5.50p	5.78p	6.1
Times dividend covered	2.72	3.03	3.36	5.03	3.1

Wolseley-Hughes is the largest distributor of central heating equipment in the British Isles and manufactures market leading products of advanced design in the oil gas combustion, horticultural and agricultural equipment and magnetic engineering industries.

The Central Manufacturing & Trading Group Limited

"Current trading ahead of last year"

reports Norman Hickman, the Chairman.

Extracts from the Chairman's Statement and the Report and Accounts for the year to 31 July 1974.

Trading Results

The year has not been an easy one with industry beset by a variety of problems such as the oil crisis, the miners' strike and the three-day week. However, in spite of these frustrations, further substantial progress, much of it achieved by internal expansion of existing companies, has been achieved. Turnover and profits are again a record with the pretax profit 85.7% ahead at £3,630,054. Earnings per share rose from 6.8p to 10.0p.

A final dividend of 10.26356p, coupled with an interim dividend already paid, makes 20.31356p for the year which is the maximum permitted. Shareholders will also be offered the opportunity of receiving shares in lieu of the final dividend.

Market conditions were generally buoyant throughout the year and the demand for the group's products was at a consistently high level.

Our success, based on high quality service and a wide range of products, entails carrying heavy stocks. Despite our record profits, funds generated were insufficient to sustain the business without recourse to extra borrowings.

With an increase in profits from £0.25m in 1967 to £3.63m in 1974 the group has shown considerable growth and has now emerged as one of the largest suppliers in the country of a large range of industrial products.

Review of Divisional Activities

Steel Stockholding & Metal Processing

Demand was at a very high level throughout the year and the division had the most successful year in its history with trading profits increasing 107.1%. Despite the difficulty of obtaining many types of steel, turnover increased substantially, and represents a considerable increase in tonnage sales. It is unlikely, however, that conditions during the current year will be as favourable. Ferrous scrap and metal processing experienced a year of booming demand with an explosion of prices. We expect further development and expansion in this sphere in the future.

Asbestos, Rubber, Plastics and Services

This division experienced buoyant demand, once again constrained by a shortage of vital materials. The order books are at a high level and prospects are sound. We have been appointed Fiat main dealer for their range of commercial vehicles in the industrial West of Scotland.

Light Engineering

Both sales of the division — up 29.6% — and profits — up 54.3% — show considerable improvement. The current order book is strong and the recruitment of skilled labour and material shortages are the main limiting factors.

Tubes, Fittings and Fabrications

Despite the shortages of certain types of steel tube and the problems of the three day week, output was maintained at a satisfactory level and the divisional results were highly satisfactory. Current trading is very buoyant and there is every prospect of continued expansion.

Drop Forgings and Castings

The year showed a good recovery in profitability but does not yet represent a fair return in relation to capital employed. Orders on hand are the highest ever reached and the growth potential can only be limited by material and labour shortages.

Prospects

Current trading is at a higher level than the same period last year, but there are so many uncertainties in the economic and political environment that it would be unwise, indeed almost impossible, to make any firm prediction about the current year. However, I believe we are better placed than most to overcome any difficulties and there is little doubt your company will realise better than average growth in sales and earnings.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are obtainable from the Secretary, 303 Halesowen

FINANCIAL NEWS

Jacker growth at Weston-Evans

Additional continue difficult Weston-Evans, a Manchester machinery maker. In six months to September it slowed to 13 per cent, a gain 54 per cent over preceding 12 months.

The other Vincent directors are not recommending the offer and have agreed not to accept for their personal holdings.

Sutcliffe, Speakman

With a healthy order book maintained since the start of the year profits of Sutcliffe, Speakman rose 19 per cent to £161,000 pre-tax in the six months to September 30.

Interim slide at Fraser Ansbacher

After servicing the loan for the group's interest in C. E. Heath & Co, the insurance brokers and underwriters, pre-tax profits of Fraser Ansbacher are down from £729,000 to £240,000 for the half year.

Modern control

Mountain Securities already out of the running for Moderna (Witney) by its statement earlier in the day that following discussions it had decided not to go further with its 64p cash share for the ordinary only.

Carrs Milling jolted

Carlisle-based Carrs Milling Industries reports a big drop in pre-tax profits for the year ended August 31, at £108,000, compared to £492,000. The company which mills flour and manufactures animal feedstuffs, blames inflation and inability to increase prices.

FPE turn-round

Reporting an interim turn-round from a loss of £75,000 to a profit of £27,000 FPE Group say the high cost of bank borrowing and continuing reorganization may produce only a minimal overall profit.

Mr Nassar opposed

The formal offer by Mr Edward Nassar for the 60 per cent of the shares of Harry Vincent, Worcestershire confectionery group, has been sent to shareholders. Mr Nassar is a director of the company.

Wall Street

New York, Dec 18.—Shrugging preponderance of bad economic news, the New York stock market turned in its second straight

Impressive performance and closed higher in fairly active trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended up 5.35 points to 603.49, closing over the 600 level for the first time since December 2 when it finished at 603.02.

Gainers outran losers by about 785 to 610. Volume quickened to 18,650,000 shares from 16,880,000 yesterday.

silver closes 13.8 cents up

New York, Dec 18.—COMEX SILVER closed near the same level as it opened with a slight gain of 13.8 cents to 60.10 cents.

Canadian Prices

Table listing Canadian stock prices for various companies like Abitibi, Alg. Steel, Bell Tel, etc.

Wool futures and Combed Futures

Wool futures and Combed Futures were mixed in London. The 12-month futures for 1975-76 closed at 110.00.

Chicago Soybeans

Chicago soybeans were mixed in Chicago. The futures for 1975-76 closed at 17.00.

Chicago Grains

Chicago grains were mixed in Chicago. The futures for 1975-76 closed at 1.00.

Issues & Loans

ECGD ship financing

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has guaranteed two separate loans totalling £5.6m which Williams and Glyn's Bank have made available to help finance the purchase of two B26 bulk carriers.

Bond Worth gains

Mountain Securities already out of the running for Moderna (Witney) by its statement earlier in the day that following discussions it had decided not to go further with its 64p cash share for the ordinary only.

Modern control

Mountain Securities already out of the running for Moderna (Witney) by its statement earlier in the day that following discussions it had decided not to go further with its 64p cash share for the ordinary only.

Carrs Milling jolted

Carlisle-based Carrs Milling Industries reports a big drop in pre-tax profits for the year ended August 31, at £108,000, compared to £492,000. The company which mills flour and manufactures animal feedstuffs, blames inflation and inability to increase prices.

FPE turn-round

Reporting an interim turn-round from a loss of £75,000 to a profit of £27,000 FPE Group say the high cost of bank borrowing and continuing reorganization may produce only a minimal overall profit.

Mr Nassar opposed

The formal offer by Mr Edward Nassar for the 60 per cent of the shares of Harry Vincent, Worcestershire confectionery group, has been sent to shareholders. Mr Nassar is a director of the company.

Wall Street

New York, Dec 18.—Shrugging preponderance of bad economic news, the New York stock market turned in its second straight

Impressive performance and closed higher in fairly active trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended up 5.35 points to 603.49, closing over the 600 level for the first time since December 2 when it finished at 603.02.

Gainers outran losers by about 785 to 610. Volume quickened to 18,650,000 shares from 16,880,000 yesterday.

silver closes 13.8 cents up

New York, Dec 18.—COMEX SILVER closed near the same level as it opened with a slight gain of 13.8 cents to 60.10 cents.

Canadian Prices

Table listing Canadian stock prices for various companies like Abitibi, Alg. Steel, Bell Tel, etc.

Wool futures and Combed Futures

Wool futures and Combed Futures were mixed in London. The 12-month futures for 1975-76 closed at 110.00.

Chicago Soybeans

Chicago soybeans were mixed in Chicago. The futures for 1975-76 closed at 17.00.

Chicago Grains

Chicago grains were mixed in Chicago. The futures for 1975-76 closed at 1.00.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table listing Eurobond prices for various countries and maturities like Abitibi, Alg. Steel, Bell Tel, etc.

NON-B BONDS

Table listing non-bond prices for various companies like Abitibi, Alg. Steel, Bell Tel, etc.

Commodities

Table listing commodity prices for various goods like copper, silver, wool, etc.

Advertisement for Union Corporation Limited (UNICORP) and Gold Fields of South Africa Limited (GFSA). Includes text: 'TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF UNION CORPORATION LIMITED RECOMMENDED OFFER', 'GOLD FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED (GFSA)', 'UNION CORPORATION LIMITED (UNICORP)', and details of the offer including cash and shares.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Mining
General Mining's 'no' to Gold Fields

General Mining has again rejected the improved bid for Gold Fields of South Africa for Union Corporation and states that the formal documents do not meet the many valid objections raised by the Unicorn board to the previous GFSAs offers.

United Kingdom and South African residents the optimum return possible on the terms. Shareholders can elect by January 10 to receive either extra cash in place of shares which is of particular benefit to non-South African residents, or shares replacing the cash element to the advantage of South Africans.

The value of GFSAs ordinary shares will be calculated as the average of the cash round-for prices for the five trading days preceding January 9, less 15 per cent.

But it must be pointed out that this offers that the money is reinvested in foreign securities within six months, otherwise for United Kingdom residents the operation of the dollar surrender rule would reduce this cash advantage to about £185.

Foreign Exchange
The dollar was mostly firmer against European currencies yesterday, although it was easier against sterling.

Discount market

Credit conditions in Lombard Street became very patchy yesterday, and rates fluctuated throughout in reflection of the thin state of the market. The day was marked by a 100 basis point rise in the Bank of England was required to assist the market in a small way, purchasing Treasury bills directly from the houses in need.

Economic Intelligence Department has been appointed by General Management (HK) Ltd to draw up a set of rules and regulations for a commodity exchange in Hongkong.

Soya bean meal futures market for London

It is hoped that a London soya bean futures market will be opened early next year. Mr. J. Pullen, the president of the Grain & Feed Trade Association (Gafsa), says in his report for the year ended September 30.

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Legal Notices
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE... Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company...

Money Market Rates

Table with columns: Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate, Treasury Bills, Prime Bank Bills, Local Authority Bonds, etc.

Spot Position of Sterling

Table with columns: Market rates, New York, Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, etc.

Forward Levels

Table with columns: New York, Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, etc.

The Times Share Indices

Table with columns: All-time, 1974, 1973, 1972, 1971, 1970, etc.

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat index of European share prices was put provisionally at 108.69 on December 17 against 110.80 a week earlier.

Recent Issues

Table with columns: Root, J. Orr, Prospect, etc.

Bank Base Rates

Table with columns: Barclays Bank, FNFC, Hill Samuel, etc.

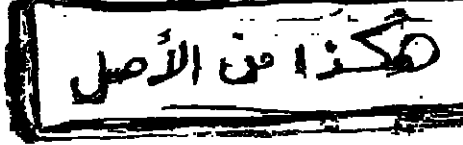
Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Large table listing various financial products, companies, and their details.

Multiple columns of legal notices, including court proceedings, company announcements, and public notices.



Stock Exchange Prices Steady tone



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Dec 9. Dealings End Dec 23. Contango Day, Dec 24. Settlement Day, Jan 7. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Main financial table with columns for Stock, Price, Change, and various market categories including Commercial and Industrial, Financial Trusts, and Shares.

Appointments Vacant

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

(direct grant: H.N.C.)

Co-educational—390 pupils—2 form entry—100 boarding boys—100 in 5th form

Applications are invited for the post of HEADMASTER from September, 1975. Applicants should be graduates of a United Kingdom or Commonwealth University and have proven teaching ability...

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

THAMES WATER AUTHORITY SOLICITORS DEPARTMENT

The Thames Water Authority is a new organization responsible for all aspects of water conservation, supply and disposal within the Thames Basin. It serves a population of 12 million and employs 12 thousand staff and has an annual budget of about £200 million.

LEGAL ASSISTANTS

are required for the Conveyancing Section in the office of the Solicitor to the Authority at Brettenham House, Lancaster Place, WC2. Salary range: £2,718 to £3,063 plus 5400 p.a. London Weighting Allowance and current threshold payment.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Flinders University of South Australia

Applications are invited for the following positions:

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

LECTURER IN GEOGRAPHY

Applicants are sought with the following fields: population studies, urban planning, regional development, political geography, the geographical environment, and the social sciences. Salary: £2,800 to £3,200 p.a.

SENIOR LECTURER AND LECTURER

IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION (Social Work). The senior lecturer will be expected to teach in the programme. Applications will be considered on the basis of a written statement of interest in the field of social work.

LECTURER IN ECONOMIC HISTORY

The discipline of Economic History offers its own courses at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the programme.

SENIOR LECTURER AND LECTURER

IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION (Social Work). The senior lecturer will be expected to teach in the programme.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Ability, initiative and intelligence are the most important qualities sought for this position. The successful candidate will be expected to manage a team of people.

ACCOUNTANCY

ACA's and ICAEW's wanted for 50 temporary assignments. The successful candidate will be expected to manage a team of people.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of New England Armidale, New South Wales

CENTRE FOR CURRICULUM STUDIES

The University of New England will establish its own Centre for Curriculum Studies in the Department of Education in Armidale, New South Wales. The Centre will be responsible for coordinating practical experiences, curriculum development and other practical experiences.

SENIOR LECTURER IN CURRICULUM STUDIES

Applicants should be able to design and deliver courses in curriculum studies and to conduct research in the area of curriculum generally.

COORDINATOR OF PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES

The successful applicant will be responsible for the practical experiences of the students in the Department of Education.

SENIOR LECTURER IN CURRICULUM STUDIES

Applicants should be able to design and deliver courses in curriculum studies and to conduct research in the area of curriculum generally.

SENIOR LECTURER AND LECTURER

IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION (Social Work). The senior lecturer will be expected to teach in the programme.

MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Ability, initiative and intelligence are the most important qualities sought for this position. The successful candidate will be expected to manage a team of people.

ACCOUNTANCY

ACA's and ICAEW's wanted for 50 temporary assignments. The successful candidate will be expected to manage a team of people.

NOTICE

All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

Procurement Executive Ministry of Defence

SCHOLARSHIPS IN MECHANICAL, PRODUCTION, METALLURGICAL, ELECTRICAL, ELECTRONIC AND AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING.

'A' Level Students

Applications are invited for places as Student Engineers from young men and women who have, or expect to have by 1st September 1975, university entrance requirements and who will not be more than 20 years old on that date.

Please send me details of your Student Engineer Scheme

Name Mr/Miss

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

Address

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Oxford

WOODHOUSE JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN CLASSICAL STUDIES

The College proposes to appoint a Junior Research Fellow on the Woodhouse Junior Research Fellowship in Classical Studies. The Fellow will be expected to teach in the College and to conduct research in the field of classical studies.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Leicester

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Applications are invited from graduates of a United Kingdom or Commonwealth University for the post of Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

DRAWING OF BONDS

CITY OF BERLIN 6% (NOW 5.5%) STERLING LOAN 1974

Table with columns for bond types and amounts. Includes entries for 1974, 1975, and 1976 bonds.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Oxford

WOODHOUSE JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN CLASSICAL STUDIES

The College proposes to appoint a Junior Research Fellow on the Woodhouse Junior Research Fellowship in Classical Studies. The Fellow will be expected to teach in the College and to conduct research in the field of classical studies.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Leicester

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Applications are invited from graduates of a United Kingdom or Commonwealth University for the post of Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of mechanical engineering.

PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Economics. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of economics.

PROFESSOR OF GEOGRAPHY

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Geography. The successful candidate will be expected to teach in the Department and to conduct research in the field of geography.

PROFESSOR OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Professor of Mechanical Engineering. The

Motoring

Price rises make hiring a car more attractive

As the cost of hiring a car rises in the past year with the rise in the cost of motoring recorded, more than one car hire firm has seriously wondered whether it would be better off selling its cars and hiring out its fleet. The idea is not as far-fetched as it sounds. In its admirable and timely *Money-Saving Motoring*, which is out in the summer, the Automobile Association gave detailed cost comparisons on owning and hiring cars. It suggested that, in some cases, hiring is cheaper, even on a comparison of small mileage.

A Ford Escort 1100 and a new average of 5,000 miles for two years, the AA estimated the car would cost a total of £283 if bought new and £762 if it was two and four years old. It included depreciation, standing charges such as road tax and insurance, running costs and repairs and the cost of a weekend holiday.

The AA examples assumed that the car was bought for cash, and that the car was hired for a weekend. On the other hand, the car was left at the end of the two with a salable asset, however it has dropped in value, while the car was nothing.

Calculations were seized on by hire firms as pointing the way for new types of private motoring, the burdens of ownership are being for trouble-free and short-term hire. However, the AA report appeared there has no evidence that motorists have been advised to hire cars. There are probably two main reasons for this. In the first place, the car business touches only about 4 per cent of the motoring population, and two thirds of rentals are by firms rather than private individuals. So the vast majority of ordinary motorists have not been advised to think of renting out their own cars. It is a good-looking vehicle, which wears its size gracefully and it offers plenty of room for up to five people, as well as a huge boot. The all-round independent suspension manages a fairly good balance between a comfortable ride—though poor surfaces may send too many vibrations into the passenger compartment—and a firm, predictable ride. The fat radial tyres give excellent road holding in all weathers. The servo-assisted dual-circuit brakes have a nice, progressive action, but I found the steering heavy and low geared.

The designers of the interior are to be congratulated for eliminating all those sharp corners and pieces of



New engine for the Consul 2000L.

a three-week, 2,000-mile holiday worked out at £260 less. There, perhaps, is where the rental firms can justifiably expect increased business as motoring continues to reach ever deeper into the pocket.

Road test: Ford Consul 2000L

The two-litre Consul has recently changed engines, the old V4 being finally dropped in favour of the overhead camshaft unit, which was introduced first for the American Pinto sub-compact and then the Mark III Cortina. It was an obvious move, for the revised Consul is both faster and more economical. Just over three seconds has been lopped off the 0 to 60 mph acceleration time, while the top speed is now about 100 mph instead of just over 90 mph. At the same time, Ford is claiming improvements in fuel economy of up to 17 per cent.

I have been driving the automatic version, and it needs to be said at once that the automatic is a little slower and slower than the manual. The automatic box was not the smoothest I have come across and since Ford make excellent manual boxes, there is a strong case for saving £130 and choosing a manual change. The automatic is, however, the more relaxing to drive, and performance (0 to 60 in under 14 seconds) should be adequate for most tastes. The engine is very smooth and surprisingly quiet, even at the motorway maximum; the more obvious noise comes from tyre thump over bad surfaces and wind whistling through the windows.

Ford claims a "touring" fuel consumption for the 2000 automatic of 29 mpg but that seems to be an optimistic figure. On the other hand, my own return of 23 mpg in mixed driving, including town and motorway work, would appear to be untypically low, and the truth lies somewhere between.

In any case, the combination of the new engine and the changed economic climate where fuel-saving matters more than performance makes the Consul 2000 a more sensible car now than when it appeared only 18 months ago. Then it tended to be dismissed as an underpowered Granada.

It is a good-looking vehicle, which wears its size gracefully and it offers plenty of room for up to five people, as well as a huge boot. The all-round independent suspension manages a fairly good balance between a comfortable ride—though poor surfaces may send too many vibrations into the passenger compartment—and a firm, predictable ride. The fat radial tyres give excellent road holding in all weathers. The servo-assisted dual-circuit brakes have a nice, progressive action, but I found the steering heavy and low geared.

The designers of the interior are to be congratulated for eliminating all those sharp corners and pieces of

protruding metal which can cause injuries if the instrument are set deep in the fascia, where they cannot catch the light, and the minor controls are neat and to hand. Cloth, as opposed to PVC trim, is, perhaps surprisingly, an improvement. The "eyeball" vents at each end of the dashboard work are most effective, but the heater tends to blow either very hot or hardly at all.

Standard items on the more expensive L version include reclining seats, halogen headlights and an electric clock, and all Consuls have a heated rear window. Despite an increase in price to £2,099 the Consul 2000L still offers fair value for money.

Motoring books

A dependable Christmas present if ever there was one is the *Book of the Road* published jointly by the Reader's Digest and the Automobile Association. After selling 2,500,000 copies in eight years the book has been fully revised. Although the main feature, a four-page, 125 models. A compression volume, which is available at a discount for Digest subscribers and AA members.

G. N. Georgano's *A Source Book of Veteran Cars* (Ward Lock, £125), is a pocket-sized guide to pre-1918 cars with pictures and short descriptions of 125 models. A compression volume, on vintage and post-vintage cars, takes the story up to 1940.

The Story of the Car by David Hodgkin and David Burgess Wise (Hamlyn, £2.95), is an ambitious title but a lot is covered in 320 pages, including motor sport, rallies and speed records. There are many illustrations, but quality of reproduction is not all it might be.

Specialist Sports Cars by Peter J. Filby (David and Charles, £3.50), covers a field where many have tried and few survived. Only this year Gilbert and Chen added their names to the long list of defunct specialist car makers and this book recalls many more, as well as the small breed like Lotus, Morgan and Reliant who have managed to defy the odds.

Finally there are two paperbacks which for a modest price offer a good deal of useful information in layman's language. *Woman at the Wheel* is billed as "a woman's guide to safe, carefree motoring". It was actually written by Elizabeth Prosser and Andrew Marriott. Published by Everest Books at 40p, it gives sensible advice on driving the car and looking after it. *How to Beat the Second-Hand Car Game*, by A. Tom Tupper and B. C. Macdonald (Elliott's Right Way series, £1.25), covers all aspects of buying a car from setting a fair price to financial and legal considerations.

Peter Waymark

roadcasting

Christmas is coming. Richard Briers revives Oneupmanship in a festive setting (IC2 9.0) and there will be chachination galore no doubt as Margaret Powell, Vic Feather and others linger over a Yuletide dinner (ITV 11.0). But while istmas is concerned with a birth Joe's Ark, Dennis Potter's moving little play started tonight, is occupied with death, though it will quicken your spirit with its ng (BBC1 9.25). Man Alive, ever on the look-out for topics to disturb us, wonders at some talented children (BBC2 10.20). But tea-time brings Laurel and Hardy V 4.30).—L.B.

TV

BBC 2
11.00-11.25 am, Play School.
7.30 Newsday.
7.55 The Early Life of Stephen King.
8.45 Rudyard Kipling Lived Here: Kipling Amis at Batemans.
9.00 Christmas Oneupmanship with Richard Coe.
9.30 Nana Maskazi.
10.20 Man Alive: Should Go Far, talented children.
11.10 Film Night.
11.40 News.
12.10-12.15 am, Frank Windsor reads from *Winter Solstice* by Laurence Binyon.

Southern
10.00 am, Hammy Hamster.
10.15 Crafts with Margaret Wood.
10.30 News.
11.30, Tons of Timber, 12.00, The King's Singers.
12.15, The King's Singers.
12.30, The King's Singers.

Westward
10.30 am, *Prisoners of War*.
11.00, *Prisoners of War*.
11.30, *Prisoners of War*.
12.00, *Prisoners of War*.
12.30, *Prisoners of War*.

Yorkshire
10.00 am, Hammy Hamster.
10.15, *Prisoners of War*.
10.30, *Prisoners of War*.
11.30, *Prisoners of War*.
12.00, *Prisoners of War*.
12.30, *Prisoners of War*.

Tyne Tees
10.50 am, *Prisoners of War*.
11.00, *Prisoners of War*.
11.30, *Prisoners of War*.
12.00, *Prisoners of War*.
12.30, *Prisoners of War*.

Scottish
10.00 am, *Prisoners of War*.
10.30, *Prisoners of War*.
11.00, *Prisoners of War*.
11.30, *Prisoners of War*.
12.00, *Prisoners of War*.
12.30, *Prisoners of War*.

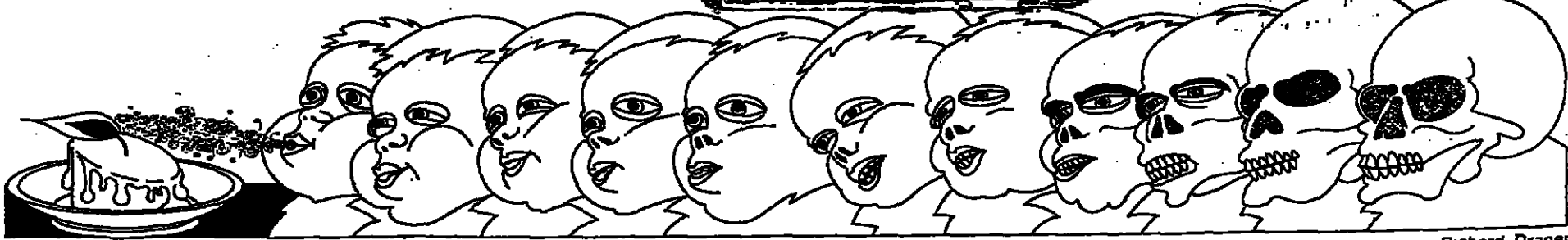
Grampian
10.00 am, *Prisoners of War*.
10.30, *Prisoners of War*.
11.00, *Prisoners of War*.
11.30, *Prisoners of War*.
12.00, *Prisoners of War*.
12.30, *Prisoners of War*.

Thames

10.40 am, Out of Town, 10.25, *The Bridal Path*, with Bill Travers, George Cole, 11.55, *Fable*, 12.00, Mr. Trumble, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, *Prisoners of War*, 7.45, *Prisoners of War*, 8.00, *Prisoners of War*, 8.15, *Prisoners of War*, 8.30, *Prisoners of War*, 8.45, *Prisoners of War*, 9.00, *Prisoners of War*, 9.15, *Prisoners of War*, 9.30, *Prisoners of War*, 9.45, *Prisoners of War*, 10.00, *Prisoners of War*, 10.15, *Prisoners of War*, 10.30, *Prisoners of War*, 10.45, *Prisoners of War*, 11.00, *Prisoners of War*, 11.15, *Prisoners of War*, 11.30, *Prisoners of War*, 11.45, *Prisoners of War*, 12.00, *Prisoners of War*, 12.15, *Prisoners of War*, 12.30, *Prisoners of War*, 12.45, *Prisoners of War*, 1.00, *Prisoners of War*, 1.15, *Prisoners of War*, 1.30, *Prisoners of War*, 1.45, *Prisoners of War*, 2.00, *Prisoners of War*, 2.15, *Prisoners of War*, 2.30, *Prisoners of War*, 2.45, *Prisoners of War*, 3.00, *Prisoners of War*, 3.15, *Prisoners of War*, 3.30, *Prisoners of War*, 3.45, *Prisoners of War*, 4.00, *Prisoners of War*, 4.15, *Prisoners of War*, 4.30, *Prisoners of War*, 4.45, *Prisoners of War*, 5.00, *Prisoners of War*, 5.15, *Prisoners of War*, 5.30, *Prisoners of War*, 5.45, *Prisoners of War*, 6.00, *Prisoners of War*, 6.15, *Prisoners of War*, 6.30, *Prisoners of War*, 6.45, *Prisoners of War*, 7.00, *Prisoners of War*, 7.15, *Prisoners of War*, 7.30, <

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

There is a critical relationship between population growth and the world's limited energy supply. The developed nations, generally, have a poor record in the management of their resources for economic growth. This Special Report looks at some of the areas in which savings can be made, the environmental problems arising and new methods of using and conserving energy.



Richard Draper

World is consuming its available resources of oil and natural gas at a rate faster than it can form them. The pressure and decay of resources of tiny marine organisms to form sedimentary basins about the world took 185 million years. In 1859, Edwin Drake made the first modern oil discovery in Titusville, Pennsylvania, and it now seems likely that man will have used these valuable resources in 200 years of this century.

Even though the industrialized nations of the world are burdened with the cost of paying five times as much for their oil, they will be the main beneficiaries of new attempts to coordinate the development of alternative energy sources. For the developing nations the outlook is much bleaker. Many are committed to a programme of development based on the western conception of industrialization and urbanization, and into the next century.

It has taken an Arab-Israeli war, the worldwide disruption of the oil supply and a five-fold increase in prices within 12 months to bring home to governments the reality of the energy crisis that the world could face before the end of the century. At last an attempt is being made to manage the world's available resources to ensure that one resource is not depleted before an alternative can be found.

The soaring costs of oil now make it imperative that resources such as coal are developed, but countries already struggling to pay for the meagre amount of oil they consume will find it difficult to raise the development capital. With the short-term recycling of surplus plus oil revenues, rightly occupying the attention of governments in industrialized nations there are few signs so far of a world energy policy emerging.

Before last winter's oil crisis energy consumption was moving forward by about 12 per cent annually. Five-fold price increases will undoubtedly stem this advance but more information is needed on how developed nations can continue to function on a lower rate of per capita energy consumption.

The first tentative step towards a comprehensive energy policy must be the collection of accurate estimates of the world's resources. Moving are being made to produce these figures in a form that shows exactly how much it would cost to extract them and on this basis calculate the prospects for alternative sources of energy such as solar power, wind and tidal power and nuclear fusion that are now constrained by the economic dominance of oil, gas and coal extracted by conventional methods.

Progress has been made in the form of the International Energy Agency. Although this is primarily a 16-nation organization designed to protect the

developed countries against the effects of interruption in world oil supplies there is also provision for cooperation in the development of alternative energy sources.

Development is proving so expensive that no country can afford a go it alone policy and the private enterprise energy companies are finding the investment required to stay in the alternative fuels race such a burden that they are needing larger and larger government subsidies and grants.

On a national basis almost every industrialized nation has taken action to curb demand and most have started at the same point—realistic pricing of energy. The biggest stocks have come in the United States that for years basked in the heat and light provided by cheap indigenous energy. In order to accommodate high priced imports of oil the whole pricing structure has changed.

Petrol prices have soared and already the American motor industry is changing to smaller engines, more

economical cars. Combined with continual appeals for economy, the Americans have begun to mend their wasteful ways. Consumption of petrol, jet fuel, and industrial oil has declined but significantly there have been few savings in the use of electricity.

France also provides an example of a country that has taken draconian measures to deal with a lack of indigenous energy supplies and unhealthy reliance on imported oil. A crash nuclear programme for American-designed reactors has been started which will enable the French to phase out many oil-burning power stations. Quotas on imports of oil have also been announced as an added incentive to save energy.

Britain, beset by two general elections within a year, has been slow to react and only this month announced a 12-point programme for energy conservation. Lower speed limits, help for industry in insulating their premises and maximum levels for heating in public buildings will have a small

effect on oil imports but will be a valuable psychological aid in reminding the public that they cannot slip back into their pre-crisis ways.

But the most uncomfortable reminder will come in the form of continually rising fuel bills. Subsidized pricing policies in the gas and electricity industries are to disappear in the new year and people may be surprised to find out just how much it costs to generate electricity in the present energy situation. Certainly they can expect another 20 to 30 per cent on top of the 6 per cent rise in prices that will be introduced in January.

Energy saving throughout the world is largely the responsibility of the individual. Governments can legislate to control speed limits, impose heating restrictions for public places and change the taxation system to encourage the use of smaller cars but in the end if the individual is not prepared to turn down his heating a few degrees and make more efficient use of

his car, these government measures will provide only marginal relief.

In Britain there is an increasing trend towards the adequate incentive to understand that North Sea oil is the country's salvation and that once it is ashore oil prices can be reduced and the days of cheap motoring can return. North Sea reserves have a limited life and could be exhausted by the turn of the century so the country must learn to exist with less energy and develop its own long-term alternatives to oil and coal.

Britain is about to embark on a nation-wide energy conservation publicity campaign. Advice on how to save fuel will be the theme, and there are many ways in which economies can be achieved in the home.

Lord Rothschild, when head of the Government's central policy review staff, said when presenting a report on energy conservation that the insulation of many British houses would not be acceptable to a modern pig farmer.

In his report Lord Rothschild says that if

prices were properly related to costs the price mechanism would in principle provide consumers with an adequate incentive to understand the appropriate cost of saving, energy conservation measures and no government action would be needed. But in practice if this condition were fulfilled there would be no guarantee that the response would be adequate.

He said that energy consumers in industry and the public were unlikely to take action required unless they appreciated the likelihood of future rises in the price of energy relative to other goods and services and were aware of the uncertainties which surround the availability of future energy supplies, and realize the benefits which could accrue from energy conservation.

In a time of rising prices however, consumers were generally inclined to be too much influenced by current prices and often took insufficient account of future trends.

Roger Vielvoye
Energy Correspondent

Elimination of the old wasteful ways has become an urgent aim throughout the world

Use of coal, oil, natural gas or nuclear energy to generate electricity is made during the generation phase.

This heat is contained in the water used as a coolant, and massive cooling towers have to be built to dissipate this heat so that the water can be discharged into rivers or estuaries. A trip down the River Trent where some of Britain's largest power stations are sited will demonstrate just how much money has been spent on the construction of cooling towers.

Waste heat can be used, particularly for home heating. In Sweden power stations are generally smaller and sited and designed to provide home and street heating. Britain's policy of building larger and larger power stations away from centres of population has made it difficult to introduce a similar policy on a wide scale.

Bankside and Battersea power stations on the Thames in Central London channel their waste heat into surrounding homes but to channel hot water over any distance requires heavily insulated pipes, and it is generally accepted that it is not practical for distances over 25 km.

Long delays in commissioning new 500 and 600 MW generating plant have also held down projected increases in the thermal efficiency of the Central Electricity Generating Board network in England and Wales.

Many of the sets that were designed to replace older and less efficient generating units are well behind in the commissioning programme and some of those in service are not producing the amounts of

power for which they were designed.

In 1973-74 the overall thermal efficiency of the CEB network was just over 29 per cent, which could have been raised to more than 32 per cent if all the new capacity had been working effectively. Higher efficiency of this magnitude could have saved 10 million tons of coal.

The efficiency of nuclear reactors is slightly higher than fossil-fuelled power stations. Like conventional power stations, greater degrees of efficiency can be obtained by utilizing the waste heat. The most likely prospect in this direction appears to be the construction of steelworks close to high temperature reactor units that would make use of the waste heat.

One of the greatest aids to efficiency in the generating industry are gas turbines and pumped storage

plants that can be switched into operation during periods of peak demand. Electricity authorities grade their power stations in an order of merit. The most efficient, normally nuclear or new coal and oil-burning units, provide the base load, and the less efficient stations are brought in as demand rises.

Pumped storage involves the pumping of water from a lower reservoir to a higher reservoir during the night using cheap base load power. The water can be released into normal hydro-power turbines during peak periods. Pumped storage will not come into its own until there is more nuclear capacity in the generating system.

Nuclear power stations cannot be turned on and off like fossil-fuelled stations so there will be a demand for their output at night. Fur-

ther economies could be made if additional storage techniques for electricity were available.

Gas turbines are useful since they can be started up much quicker than a conventional boiler and generator configuration. But they do require expensive distillate fuel rather than the thicker and cheaper residual fuel oils burned in large-scale power stations.

What are known as combined cycle generators are now being developed. The exhaust heat from the gas turbine is fed into a boiler which generates steam for a conventional steam turbine.

Several years ago a range of 250-400 MW combined cycle generators were launched in the United States with design efficiencies of between 38 and 42 per cent. Research is being undertaken to produce more efficient gas turbines that would increase the overall

efficiency of the units to between 55 and 60 per cent.

Gas turbines that work directly from nuclear reactors are also under development.

Alternative methods of electricity generation with fossil fuels have been investigated. But further long-term research would be needed to make thermionic and thermoelectric generators a viable proposition. Alone, their efficiency is not high, but combined with a conventional plant with an efficiency of 48 per cent it could raise the overall energy conversion characteristics of the station to 44 per cent.

There are real doubts about the cost effectiveness of research into these new generating forms, and similar uncertainties exist over the future of magneto hydro-dynamics (MHD) despite considerable research. Improvements could also

be made in extracting certain of the primary fuels. The coal industry has been given new life by soaring oil costs, and is looking at ways in which further mechanization can be introduced underground.

On the surface, pressure is growing for more open-cast mining. Open-cast operations are unsightly and disruptive, but the National Coal Board has proved that it can restore the landscape once mining operations are complete.

However, strip mining, as it is known in the United States, has justifiably acquired a bad reputation as a despoiler of the countryside and there are now considerable environmental objections to further tracts being opened up.

Oil and gas technology has reached an advanced state of development. Again higher prices make it eco-

nomic for operators to consider greater expenditure on secondary recovery—extracting the large amounts of oil that are left once initial production has tailed off.

Way-out techniques such as controlled underground nuclear explosions have been suggested and there is considerable research being carried out into the perfection of most conventional methods.

The extraction of uranium is a newer industry and the only one where resources are catagorized in relation to the cost of extraction. Many people within the energy industry feel that this is a concept that could be extended to other attractive industries and could prevent wild estimates of world resources that bear little relation to the cost of obtaining these various materials.

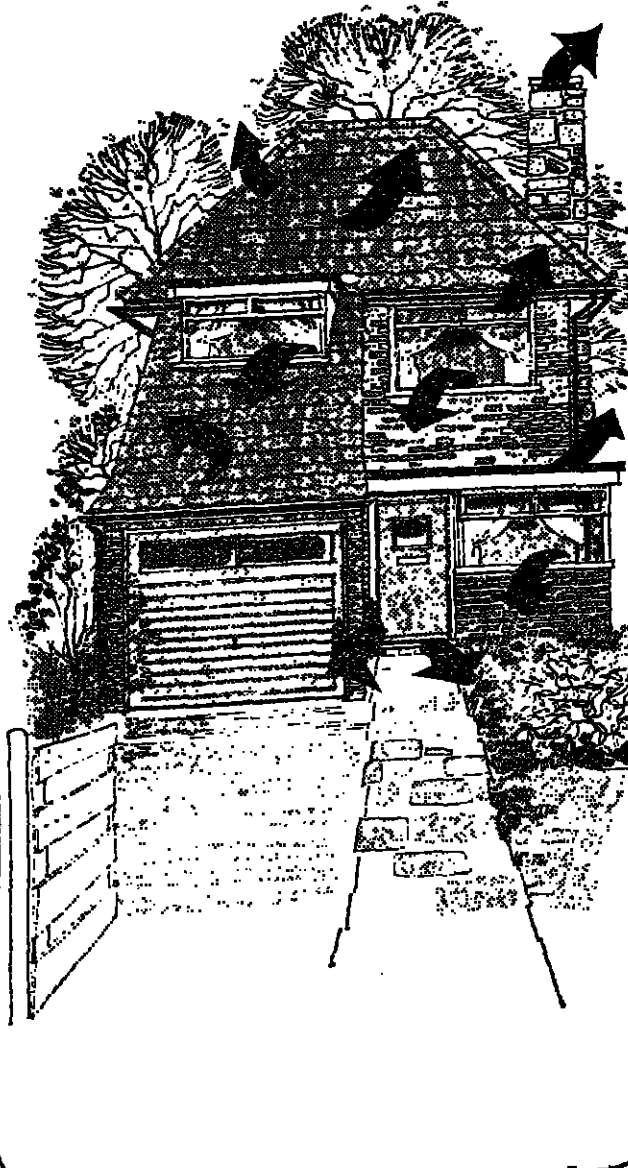
R.V.

How much central heating fuel are you wasting?

The problem

Central heating fuels are, like most things, more expensive than ever before. In spite of this, a surprising amount of fuel is wasted in many centrally heated homes due to inadequate insulation and a lack of system controls.

To take an extreme example, in a house with no insulation and only basic controls the heat loss could be as much as 50%! But even where insulation is present it is often inadequate for the job it has to do. Treating effective insulation is a whole new science in itself and controls confined to a simple time clock and thermostat are not flexible enough to provide heat exactly when and where it's needed, for maximum comfort and efficiency.



The solution

Esso's answer to the problem is simple and effective. If you keep the heat in and use it more efficiently you'll save fuel; and if you save fuel, you'll save money. It's as easy as that.

We have extended the Esso Central Heat Wave (covering fuel supply, tailor-made installations, regular maintenance and budget payments) to include advice and help on the installation of fuel-saving insulation and controls. You can see from this advertisement just how much you can save, and how Esso can help you do it.

But what's the world's biggest oil company doing, telling you how to save oil? Well, Esso's aim is to provide the best central heating service available. We value our present customers and want to attract new ones. If we can help reduce fuel bills, we hope you will stay with us—or move over to us, as the case may be.

All fuels have increased in price over the past year, and there are likely to be further increases in the future. There is likely to be little if any price differential between fuels for long, so it makes good sense to spend your money on conserving heat.

Expert advice

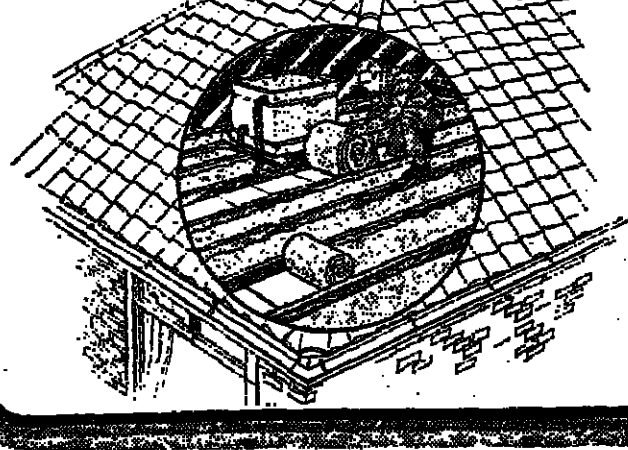
There is a host of methods available for controlling heat loss. Only some of them are right for your home. You need expert advice; your Esso Authorised Distributor will arrange for specialists to inspect your home and see that you get that advice.

Insulation keeps the heat in

Esso know from experience that insulation of the roof and walls is the most cost-effective way to keep the heat in. They know too that ICI produce the unique 'Ufoam Plus' cavity wall insulation and also install roof insulation of the highest quality. So Esso and ICI have teamed up to give you the very best in roof and wall insulation. It's worth remembering that second-rate insulation is often little better than no insulation at all.

Start with the roof

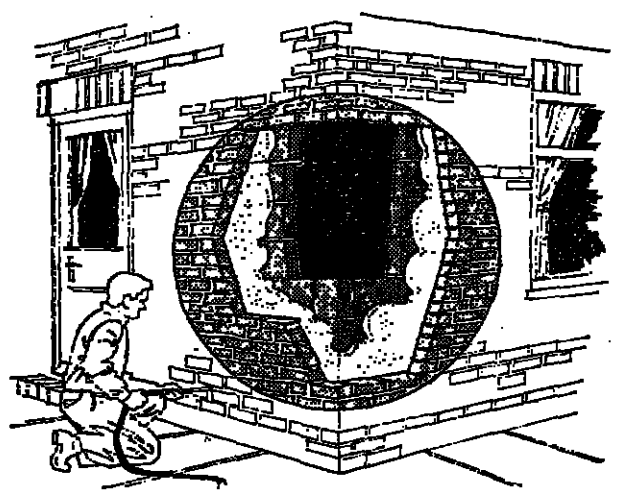
Even if you already have roof insulation 1" thick, by having the job done properly (and that means a 3" thickness) you can cut heat loss drastically. £40* spent here could save up to 15% of your fuel bill.



Fill cavity walls with foam

If you have cavity walls, foam insulation can give even bigger savings, though it costs rather more to install. Spend £160* on wall insulation and you can save about 20% a year on running costs; you'll add to the value of your property too.

The best combination of insulation measures for maximum economy varies from house to house. Esso will arrange for advice to be given on the effectiveness of roof and wall insulation in your home.



Wrap up your hot water cylinder properly

A bare hot water cylinder may be useful for airing the clothes, but it's a terrible waste of heat. A modern thick cylinder jacket can be fitted by most householders. It only costs about £5, and can easily save £10 a year on oil. Here again, even if you already have a 1" thick cylinder jacket it's well worth getting a thicker one.

What about double glazing?

Double glazing tends to be rather costly, but it can provide fuel savings of about 10%. It of course gives additional benefits in sound proofing and reducing condensation.

Controls cut running costs

Extra controls in the central heating system cut wastage and enable you to have heat where and when you want it. There's a big variety available, from simple time switches and thermostats, through thermostatic radiator valves and zone valves (they allow you to vary the temperature in different parts of the house), to the sophistication of a programmer (it gives complete control of radiators and domestic hot water, with many combinations of the two).

Esso will arrange for you to be advised on the best controls for economy in your home. The savings you make will depend on the controls you have installed and how you use them.

Maintenance means more efficiency, less waste

The regular maintenance of your installation can go a long way towards reduced fuel bills. If the boiler is dirty, or if the adjustment of the burner is incorrect, oil consumption can rise dramatically. That's why a comprehensive servicing programme using a large force of Esso employees is all part of the Esso Central Heat Wave package.

Free brochure with all the facts!

Whether you're an Esso customer or not, you can take advantage of this offer. If you haven't got central heating yet, we can give you full details of the Esso Central Heat Wave, and remember, with Esso you get Green Shield Stamps with every gallon of oil you buy! To start with return the coupon and we'll send you a free colour brochure giving more details of the cost-cutting measures you can take. It's well worth a look—clip the coupon without delay. Or simply call your local Authorised Distributor; you'll find him in the Yellow Pages under "Oil Fuel Suppliers."

*All figures are based on an average 2 1/2 bedroom house

To: Esso Central Heating, Box No. 2, Feltham, Middlesex.

Esso

I have oil central heating and would like to know about insulation and controls.

I am interested in an oil installation.

I am interested in the Esso maintenance service.

Name _____

Address _____

Tel. No. _____

7/19/74

The Esso Central Heat Wave

Poorer nations face difficult days

by Roger Vielvoie

Historically energy consumption has been linked to the level of a nation's economic activity. In 1972 each American consumed the equivalent of 10,928kg of coal. West Germans used 4,299kg and the Japanese 3,353kg a head.

At the other end of the scale, Indians consumed only 204kg and the average of all African countries was 348kg a head. Averaged throughout all countries, the world per capita consumption was 2,130kg.

Of course, there are exceptions. Unfortunately Britain, which has a lower level of economic activity than either Germany or Japan, has a per capita consumption of 5,103kg, an example of a country living above its means.

In a cheap energy world, developing countries could expect a rapid increase in per capita consumption of energy as populations acquire the goods and services associated with western-style improvements in living standards. Certainly the rate of such improvements in the western world will slow down considerably.

Many energy economists feel population growth to be the major problem the world will face in maintaining energy supplies for the remainder of this century and their attention is focused on the developing countries. However, many of these countries use so little

energy that quite large increases in their populations will have little effect on world demand.

On the other hand, zero population growth in the industrialized countries with high per capita energy consumption could play a major part in cutting the soaring demand for energy.

However, as Mr Irwin M. Stelzer and Mr Lewis J. Perl, of National Economic Research Associates, told the World Energy Conference in Detroit in September, the relationship between population and energy use is not mechanical, but reflects a host of individual decisions made within a specific social, economic and technical framework.

"Only by understanding the nature of this decision-making structure can we hope to develop estimates of the relationship between population and energy growth of sufficient reliability", they said.

The decision about the appropriate pattern of consumption and production of energy was responsive to shifts in price, income per capita and other aspects of the environment in which they were made.

If the rate of energy usage was underestimated and as a consequence no steps were taken to curtail growth, the world might find itself vitally short of fuel reserves or of clean air and water.

By the same token, if the

rate of usage was overestimated and growth curtailed in response, this could bring a premature end to present economic progress. This offers the best hope for improving living standards in the underdeveloped countries and for alleviating poverty in the developed parts of the world.

Mr Stelzer and Mr Perl told the World Energy Conference that to strike a useful balance between the goals of growth and resources, conservation would require projections reflecting a higher order of accuracy and reliability than are now available.

The NERA paper points out two different responses to the problems posed by linking population growth and energy demand. Neo-Malthusians predict imminent catastrophe unless the rate of growth in the world population is reduced substantially within the next 20 years and all acceptable means used to achieve zero population growth.

Opposition comes from the group described in the paper as "technological optimists". These analysts have emphasized the ability of technology to reduce the energy requirements of economic activity, to increase the amount of energy derived from a given amount of fuel, to discover new fuel sources and to mitigate the environmental damage associated with energy use.

Arguments can be mar-

shalled to support both points of view. Between 1920 and 1965, largely as a result of improvements in efficiency, fuel requirements in the United States declined from 149,100,000 to 91,900,000 joules per dollar of gnp. Oil reserves have continued to expand and there are a number of technological innovations of great potential on the horizon. Pollution problems are less easily solved, but nuclear power and the advent of the electric car provide some reason for optimism.

In support of the Malthusian view, it can be shown that energy consumption per dollar of gnp in the United States rose substantially from 1965 and 1970. Mr Stelzer and Mr Perl point out that if this trend reflects the beginning of a decline in the efficiency of energy production, this would weaken the case made by the technological optimists.

They said: "We should disabuse ourselves of the notion that we can resolve the controversy between the Malthusians and the technological optimists by improving our ability to extrapolate past trends in population, gnp per capita, energy use per dollar of gnp, and pollution emissions per joule of energy consumed. Even holding population and gnp growth constant produces a wide range of energy consumption levels."



In Calcutta (above) and New York (right) the crowds are vast but the amounts of coal used are in sharp contrast.

Britain's Coal - A National energy source for at least the next 100 years.

In the light of the enormous growth in world energy demands, coal is likely to be as important a source as ever - if not more so.

We, in Britain, have coal reserves to last 100 years or more. More important still, we're implementing a continuous programme of investment to increase cost-efficiency still further, as well as to maintain supplies you'll need in the future.

But increasing productivity alone is not enough. At our two major research centres, investigations are being actively pursued into all other aspects of using coal as an energy source. New methods of production, of delivery, of grading and processing. New designs of boilers and new and better ways of utilising the fuel.

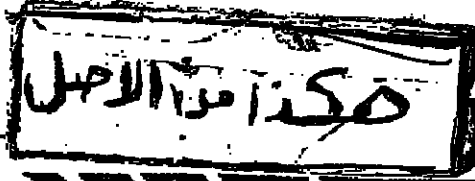
More coal, more efficiently used - those are our constant goals now. And to help increase effectiveness for you, we operate a free Technical Service throughout the country, ready to provide you with information on any aspect of your heating or energy problems.

The Solid Fuel Advisory Service can also provide answers and good advice for smaller and domestic users.

Just ring NCB Technical Service 01-235 2020, Ext. 290 or get in touch with them through your local coal distributor.



National Coal Board, Hobart House, Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7AE.



Energy Conservation

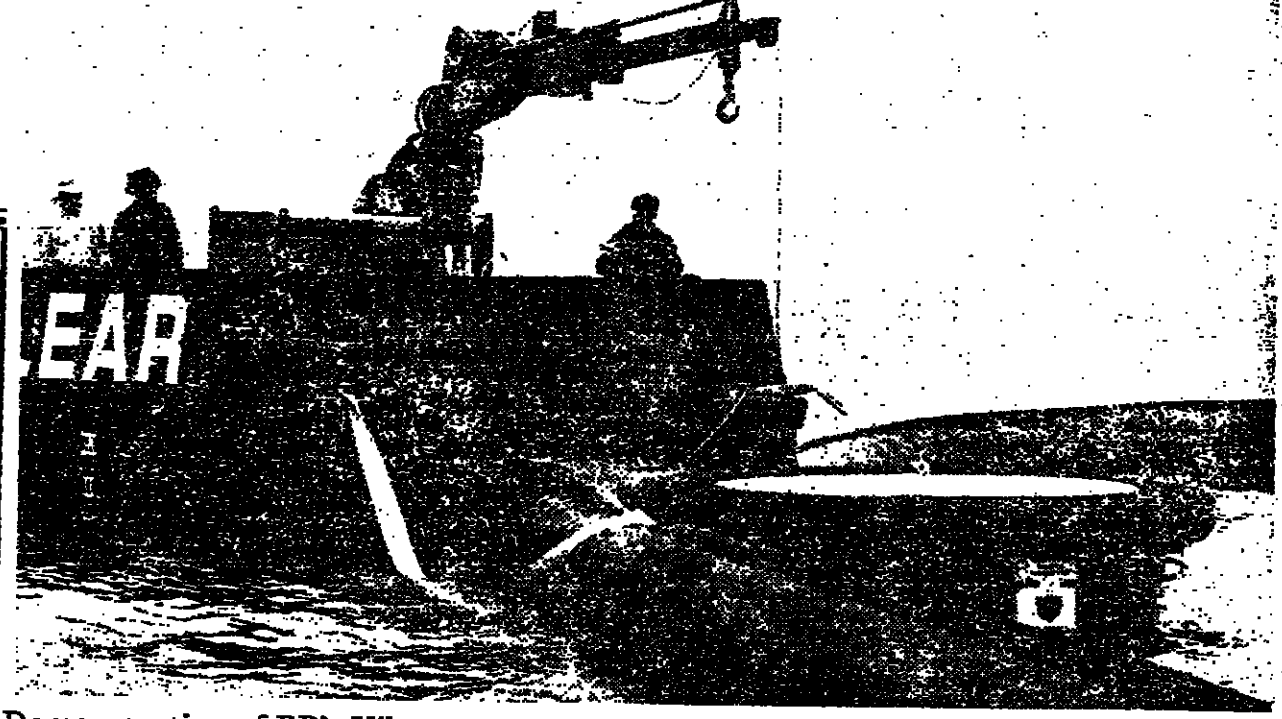
Plate-Type Heat Exchangers

Example modular systems for liquid/liquid heat transfer

- *Tubular and plate type heat exchangers
- *Static and mobile oil recycling equipment
- *Integrated systems for continuous or intermittent operation

Save or hire options - low volume stocks - system advice on application

Marine & Industrial Heat Limited, Gaxelds Works, Lower High Street, Watford, Hertfordshire. Tel: Watford 28228/28527



Demonstration of BP's Vikoma system for dealing with oil pollution on the open sea.

How to stop money going up in smoke

by Edward Townsend

British industry is losing hundreds of millions of pounds of potential profits every year - all of it going up in smoke or simply leaking away from inefficient machines and draughty factories.

Industry's conduct in energy conservation seems to have been appalling. A recent survey showed that just by raising the whole of industry's use of energy standards to those of the more efficient firms, a saving of between £350m and £450m a year could be achieved.

Another estimate is that companies could take a 10 per cent cut in energy consumption without loss of output by improving plant efficiency, better use of controls and recovery of waste heat. At today's prices this could mean a saving on the nation's bill of £600m a year.

And the National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service, which compiled the first set of figures, made the position worse by claiming that this could be attained not by carrying out expensive technological advanced conservation schemes, but "by current known and proved techniques and practices which are financially viable even at today's energy costs".

Further savings could be achieved by a reduction in the frequency of replacing plant, less maintenance and improved production and reduced pollution.

The chief stumbling block, however, is that production processes invariably claim priority when it comes to investing in capital. On average in Britain, the cost of energy is still only about 8 per cent of the production cost, and the incentive to conserve is correspondingly low.

Energy experts now say, bearing in mind the soaring costs of fuel, that investment in better use of energy gives a return often higher than that on capital and that it can be repaid in the year it is made.

Improved operational procedures, better insulation of factories and machines, recycling of heat from processes, lights and even people, and on a wider scale the reclamation and decontamination of oil, can all pay handsome dividends.

Even a leaking steam valve, of which the average factory has more than a few, can help energy consumption to mount. It is reckoned that many factories are losing steam at the rate of 1,000 lb an hour solely because of faulty valves.

And it seems from various investigations that industrial steam raising in many British factories is still run with about the same efficiency as it was in the last century. Fitting automatic dampers and auxiliary pressure switches can do a lot to conserve fuel and are particularly necessary now that steam, as NIFES says, "really is too expensive to blow to waste".

investigational approach are dramatic. NIFES estimates that the chemicals and engineering and metal sectors could each achieve savings of 18 per cent; paper and printing 17 per cent; ceramics, textiles and leather, food, drink and tobacco, 15 per cent each; other manufacturing industries 21 per cent.

Targets for assessing the performance of production facilities should be set by every firm and in many cases continuous monitoring of processes would appear to be essential. The tremendous upsurge of awareness in energy conservation has led to the flowering of consultancies who hire out their skills and experience to do these jobs.

One such firm is the Lancashire based Fuel Economy Consultants, set up eight years ago and now boasting a list of clients extending from Rolls-Royce, Associated Engineering and British Leyland to Woolworth, Trust Houses Forte and Arthur Guinness.

Their role varies from a recent job of helping a large engineering company to modernize its boiler plant for an outlay of more than £35,000 a year, to advising which fuel and tariff even the smallest company should adopt.

Helping to trim the fuel bills of industry has undoubtedly proved lucrative for FEC. Its schemes generally involve it taking a share in any savings that are achieved. In the case of its energy purchase surveillance service, the share is 55 per cent, although many large companies, where the potential to save energy is vast, prefer to negotiate a straight fee.

Industrial processes using huge amounts of heat are obvious targets for the fuel efficiency drive. NIFES conducted tests on more than 200 reheating furnaces, oil and gas fired, in the Midlands and concluded that an overall saving of 20 per cent could be achieved.

They reckoned that the design of almost 200 of the furnaces they inspected should be modified, 150 should use waste heat to pre-heat combustion air, 117 needed operational adjustment, 143 needed improved planning and loading, and 96 should incorporate insulated brickwork.

Another investigation, of a gas-fired wire drying oven showed that by various modifications the oven temperature could be cut by a third

to 205°C without affecting NIFES, if these energy requirements are not met, a result, the saving on gas will go out of business, worked out at £3,000 a year.

These are the sort of statistics which show that the onus is on individual companies to adopt "shop floor" energy conservation practices for themselves. What the conservationists are calling for on a national front is more incentive, financial and legislative, for the industrialist to carry them out and greater technical help to prevent waste.

Almost at the last moment the industrialist is beginning to take a fresh look at his energy requirements and give it a true place in his priorities. After all, says able demand.

"I am Private Btu (THE BRITISH THERMAL UNIT) There are about 25 million of me in one ton of coal. My job is to fight for productivity but often I don't even get into action, just die on some fuel dump, go up the chimney in smoke, get done in on a supplyline or blown through the roof. Can you afford this?"

This was true 20 years ago when oil fuel was scarcely known and natural gas and metrication hadn't arrived. It was true then, but with today's fuel prices it is, doubly true.

CONSERVATION OF FUEL AND POWER IS A NATIONAL NECESSITY AND WILL PAY YOU A DIVIDEND

Contact: NIFES NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL FUEL EFFICIENCY SERVICE LTD. 54/58 Bartholomew Close, London EC1A 7HD. Tel: 01-606 5906

CRANFIELD SCHOOL OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

offers M.Sc. and 1-week short courses on many aspects of Energy Management, including:

- Energy Conservation and the Environment
- Combustion-generated air pollution
- Energy studies; Thermal insulation
- Gas turbine technology; Engineering heat transfer

The School also possesses excellent facilities for advanced research in these and related areas of energy technology. For details write, specifying area(s) of interest to:

The Secretary, School of Mechanical Engineering, Cranfield Institute of Technology, Cranfield, Bedford. Tel: (0234) 750111, ext. 261.

Is your power-costly journey necessary?

Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

forces that introduce this giantism into their lives?

A more basic question is: has the whole thing been based on a false premise? Has the price of energy, and therefore of transport, been artificially depressed during the past half-century, and if it had not been, how different would our freely chosen life-style now be?

Similar questions arise over the means used to make journeys. Some 60 per cent of transport energy is consumed by private cars. The typical car wastes about 80 per cent of the energy it consumes, and the "clean" cars recently proposed to lessen urban pollution would waste even more.

Before the war, petrol cost the equivalent of about 7p a gallon. Until quite recently it was still only about 20p. At such prices the marginal cost of using a car once bought and in the garage is small. Everyone uses them more than they need, and more wealthy people buy large, voracious vehicles whose consumption of energy and other resources is beginning to look offensively irresponsible.

Moral attitudes were already beginning to have an effect on some people's actions earlier this year. But petrol at more than 50p a gallon and the prospect of paying £1 a gallon or more next year will no doubt have a far sharper one. So what can we expect over the years ahead?

Wider consumer choice

Shipping lines do very well out of carrying X-de cars to Y, and Y-made to X; and the same thing repeated on a far wider scale at a less spectacular level. Dundee-made jam to Ford and Oxford-made jam Dundee; Liverpool-made jam to Bristol and Bristol-made soap to Liverpool.

The virtue of all this, it is said, is that it greatly lessens consumer choice, and minimises economies of scale in production, distribution and sale.

Probably true. But do people actually want to travel a distance to shop in a supermarket while their local shops disappear? Do they want to travel a distance to work rather than a shorter one nearer home in an office?

Supporters of this kind of gross would say they do. It is a free country and if you do it, it is presumably your business to do it.

To doubt there are some less or adventurous spirits who do like to be on the move all the time. But are they the majority? Or are they a minority carried along, helplessly, by impersonal forces that are apparently irresistible?

Fewer people will own cars

Obviously the rapid rise in car ownership and use will slow down, as is already happening. With petrol at £1 a gallon people will buy smaller cars, use them less, and make them last longer. Already people are going by bus and train as the cost of motoring rises, and public transport becomes sufficiently competitive in price to outweigh the extra convenience of the car. The trend will gather momentum as central and local government concentrate investment on public transport rather than road construction.

As fuel becomes more expensive and transport ceases to be cheap, the volume of movement of all kinds, not only private motoring, should shrink. The 500,000-mile-a-year salesman will become a rarity (already the number of cars on the roads, like the number of makers, have fallen on hard times) and there will presumably be more Dundee, and less Oxford, jam sold in Dundee.



Solar energy collector panels made by Alcoa Britain are placed in position on the roof of an experimental home at Milton Keynes.

People will tend to work and find their pleasures nearer home (bad for the Costa Brava but good for Bournemouth) and over the longer term towns and cities will presumably stop exploding, and become more compact, companionable places, with more provision for buses, bicycles and pedestrians.

Battery propulsion will become more appropriate because it is clean, quiet and burns alternative fuels at the power station; and as technology advances towards new types of battery it will become even easier and cheaper.

If we are sufficiently daring and determined, new forms of high-speed vacuum might come in, like a vacuum tube, a U-shaped hole in the ground yielding fantastic speeds for very little energy. And if that seems too advanced, there is always the pony and trap.

Closer scrutiny for nature's sources

by Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Natural sources of energy—the sun, wind, waves, tides and geothermal heat—are being reassessed seriously by electricity authorities. And research towards nuclear fusion as an alternative to fission is being pursued.

What are the prospects for these various alternative sources of energy? As a result of research by the Central Electricity Generating Board the general situation is assessed as follows by Mr E. M. Hughes, of the board's Marchwood Engineering Laboratories.

The primary source of energy which makes life on earth possible comes from the sun, but availability does not match need. Yet vast quantities of low-intensity solar energy are available. In this situation the direct conversion of solar heat to electricity is uneconomical in the United Kingdom and is likely to remain so until the end of the century. But the direct use of solar heat for water heating is now just about economic in south-west England and it may become economic for space heating.

The second vast source of the world's energy lies in the wind, which shows a better match with requirements, since the strongest winds occur in winter and in higher altitudes. This wind power may be harnessed directly from a type of windmill or its energy may be taken from ocean waves, which are themselves generated solely by the wind.

The use of windmills would demand some system for storing the energy. Mr Hughes points out, and if such a storage system existed it would be theoretically possible (but prohibitively costly) to supply the whole of present United Kingdom electricity demands from windmills sited offshore.

Wave power could supply most of our needs for most of the time if a practical method could be developed to harness and store it. Further research has been done by Dr Stephen Salter at Edinburgh University, but the engineering problems are formidable and the economics are speculative.

Tidal power can provide additional energy in certain places. A tidal scheme in the Bristol Channel could, it is estimated, supply about 12 per cent of present electricity demand at a cost which might now be economic.

An almost infinite source of energy lies in the heat of the earth, but because of surface cooling it occurs at great depths and so is hard to exploit. In a few volcanic areas the heat appears at or near the surface in the form of geysers, such as those in New Zealand.

There are also areas such as the Cheshire Basin, where it may be possible to extract heat from depths of about 6,000ft. This heat could be used for soil warming or district heating. But for this source to make any real impact on our energy requirements a practical method must be found to extract heat from the

rock at depths greater than about 12,000ft.

The Energy Technology Support Unit of the Department of Energy at Harwell is continuing to assess alternative sources such as these. Research in specific projects is being supported by the Science Research Council.

One SRC project is aimed at developing an "autonomous house" which would be independent of centrally supplied energy services. Initiated by Mr Alexander Mitchell of the Department of Architecture at Cambridge University, the design of the house is based on the extensive use of solar and wind power.

Space heating will be provided by using collectors for solar radiation, storing the heat obtained during the winter, boosted by periods of winter sun, the council reports. "Wind power will be utilized for generating electricity, with the surplus energy above the capacity of the generator diverted to provide domestic hot water."

Another scheme is for the experimental installation of aluminium energy collector panels for the supply of domestic hot water and central heating at Milton Keynes. Here the aim is to monitor the contribution that solar energy can make towards total heat input and hence to determine the economics of solar heating in domestic houses.

Funded by the Department of the Environment, the system has been designed by Milton Keynes Development Corporation and the Solar Energy Development

panels have been supplied by Alcoa and incorporate heat-exchange fluid which flows through integral passages.

On a much longer time scale, thoughts about the possibility of developing fusion power begin by using the sun as a source of energy. Solar radiation is provided by fusion reactions between light nuclei in the sun.

The sun may be regarded as a gigantic fusion reactor. CERN scientists point out that the reactions which are contained by gravitational forces. Such a system is not possible on earth and early studies concentrated on the problem of containing the hot, ionized gases in a magnetic "bottle".

Twenty years ago it was thought that fusion reactions might be an alternative to the first generation of breeder fission reactors. But progress has been slow, the new field of plasma physics had to be explored. Encouraging experiments in the past few years have led to the belief that demonstration of controlled fusion with magnetic containment might be possible by the early 1980s. Last year induced fusion is an alternative approach which might prove to be feasible sooner.

Even if scientific feasibility were demonstrated, experts say, commercial generation of fusion power could not begin until many years of testing with experimental components taken place and a demonstration reactor had proved successful. From fission reactor experience, this could take at least 30 years.

Britain can't afford to waste heat..

so we've found a better way to burn gas.

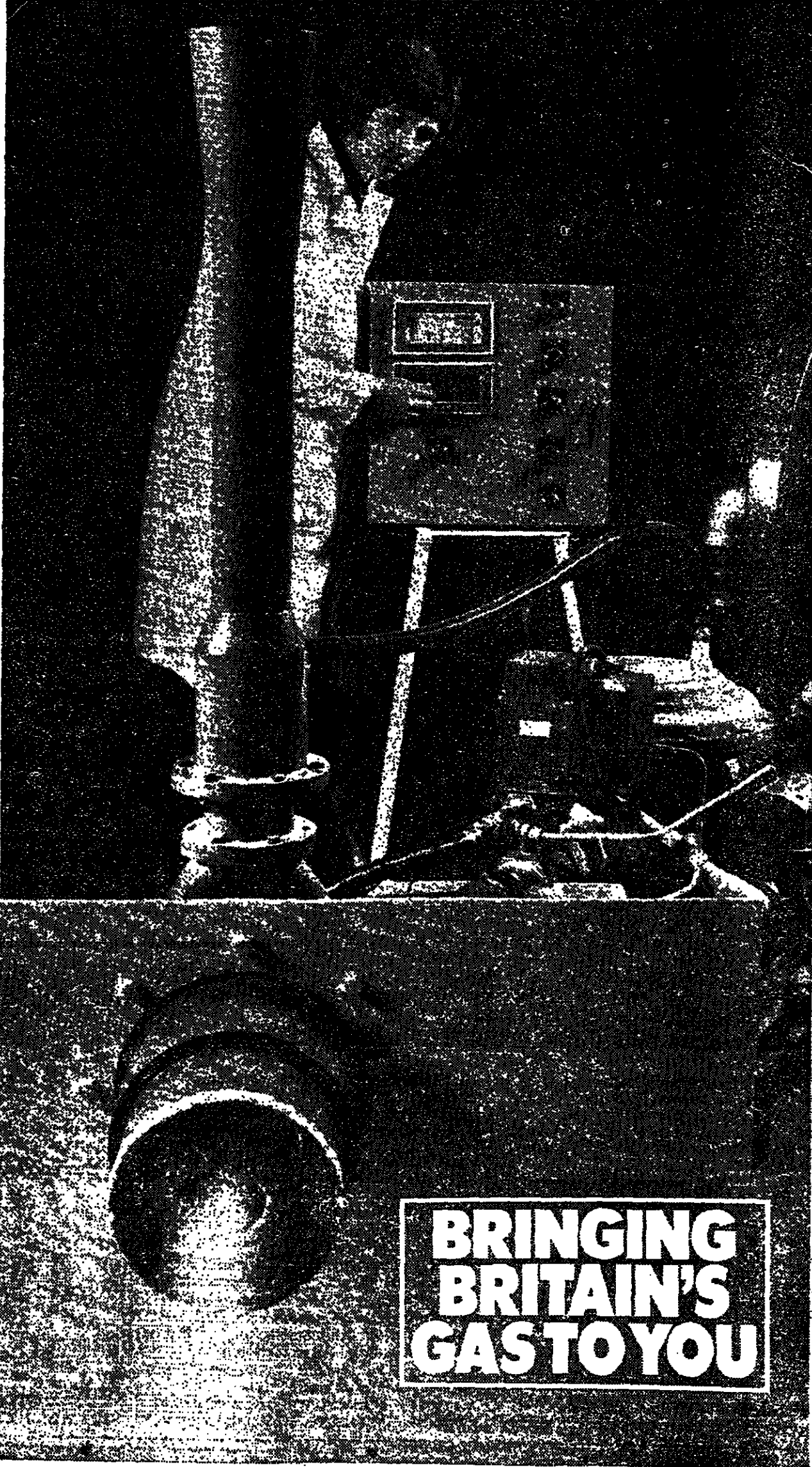
There is a vital need to conserve energy, especially precious natural gas. Which makes the British Gas research programme to find even more efficient ways of using natural gas more important than ever.

The latest product of this research is a new method of waste heat recovery. It involves a new type of burner which combines the function of burner, flue and recuperator. When installed in a production kiln at a Stoke-on-Trent pottery, it replaced eight conventional burners and cut fuel consumption by 30 per cent. In a steel reheating furnace it has produced a fuel saving of 50 per cent.

Gas is also making an important contribution to solving Britain's energy problems in many other ways:-

1. By pushing ahead its development programme British Gas expects to be supplying at least 30 per cent of the nation's useful heat this winter.
2. By providing energy in the form of a pure, highly efficient and easily controllable fuel, which can be supplied direct to the customer with virtually no waste. (And no harm to the environment.)
3. By saving hundreds of millions of pounds a year on our balance of payments. And making us less dependent on oil.

NATURAL GAS-TOO GOOD TO WASTE



**BRINGING
BRITAIN'S
GAS TO YOU**

BRITISH GAS
Our Vital Industry

Economy drive could put quality of life in danger

certain irony now surrounds the relationship between the conservation movement and the energy producing industries. Conservationists were among the first to point out modern society's profligate use of finite resources of energy. Their arguments about the wasteful use of energy resources could find industrialized society and ecologists who are basing their quality of life on the quality of life.

life are being quietly pushed aside. Conservationism was once the term that covered anybody aware of the problems of waste, pollution and its effect on the environment. More defined categories are now necessary to separate the conservationists (the proponents of economy) from the environmentalists (the ecologists who are basing their quality of life on the quality of life).

Most industrial countries now have basic standards for clean air and water but these are not internationally agreed. Standardization would make life easier for the manufacturers of products like cars and there seems to be no reason why the move to standardization should be deferred simply because fuel has become more expensive.

Coal - £21,300
Gas - £33,800
Oil - £43,400

This is the average annual running costs for a 10,000 lbs/hr steam boiler at today's fuel prices.

30 YEARS LIFE EXPECTANCY

When you purchase a modern packaged boiler, that is its anticipated life span.

WHO CAN PREDICT?

Fuel costs and supply over 30 years is impossible to predict (escalating costs - industrial disputes - international politics)

Look to the 'Vekos' Multi-Fuel Boiler
Which burns OIL, GAS & COAL

Unlike other boilers which are limited in the choice of fuel, it can quickly be interchanged between these three fuels.

Protect your investment.

PARKINSON COWAN GWB LTD
P.O. Box 4, Burton Works,
DUDLEY, DY3 2AD, Worcs.

Telephone: Dudley 55455 Telex: 33188

Disturbing signs are already emerging. Britain has suspended its programme for reducing the amount of lead in petrol until a further study on the medical and economic implications of low-lead petrol has been completed. In the short term the suspension was aimed at reducing petrol consumption because the first stage of the programme probably added about £10m to the country's oil import bill. Completion of the programme could add another £50m.

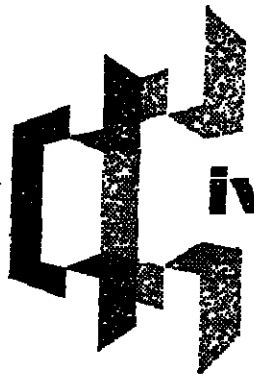
Lead in petrol is a subject full of difficulties. Many authorities feel the lead content in exhaust emissions is not injurious to health. But it demonstrates the dilemma in which governments can find themselves. The short term balance of payments advantage has to be weighed against possible, but conclusively proved, health hazards.

The Americans are under pressure to relax the regulations on all exhaust emissions. Devices designed to reduce emissions also reduce fuel consumption and in many American vehicles they make starting and cold-running operations difficult. But whereas there is doubt over the health hazards involved in lead there are few people who would dispute the adverse effect of car exhausts.

Even oil companies do not dispute that much of the atmospheric pollution in the world is caused by the production of energy or its consumption. But they have not raised objections to calls for the relaxation of strict regulations on the use of high sulphur fuels in American power stations and factories. Regulations have been hard-won and should not be surrendered lightly.

Japan also has strict regulations on high sulphur fuels, and like America has been forced to search the world for low-sulphur crude oil and coal because their existing plants are not equipped to handle the more readily available high-sulphur fuels. This search has driven up the cost of

continued on page IV



Ivan h. carter ltd

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

Save Heat Beat Noise THERMAL AND ACOUSTIC INSULATION FOR HOME AND INDUSTRY

- * Double Glazing
* Patio Door
* Replacement Windows
* Front Entrance Doors
* Shop Fronts



(In fact anything involving aluminium, glass and hardwood the Architects choice)

All our units are manufactured to fit your requirements in our factory at Watford. Our representatives are on call not only to advise and quote you; but also to see that you get our personal attention.

POST THIS COUPON (Freepost) to: IVAN H. CARTER LTD. Shakespeare Industrial Estate, Acme Road, Watford, WD2 5AQ. Tel. No. Watford 33211. LONDON SALES SHOWROOM Tel. No. 01-907 1171

Fill those cavities in the teeth of rising fuel bills

by Charles Lyte

The high cost of all types of fuel—oil, coal, gas, electricity, even logs, and the promise of more price rises on the way—has introduced a new discipline into domestic science: the management of home heating.

Cheap fuel in the past has tended to make us a somewhat profligate nation with heat in the home. When the weather grows cold we have met the problem by simply increasing the central heating, switching on another bar of the electric fire, or shovelling more coal into the hearth.

This system works reasonably well, but it is wasteful and now expensive because an alarming amount of that extra heat disappears quite uselessly. Rather than generating more heat, the householder should concentrate on seeing that his home uses heat to the maximum efficiency, and this means keeping it in the building.

In the average house heat loss is absurdly high, with 35 per cent escaping through the walls and 25 per cent through the roof. Between 10 per cent and 15 per cent goes into the

ground, while 10 per cent is lost through the windows.

The solution to the problem can be expressed in a word: insulation. Most houses, even modern buildings, are lamentably badly insulated, although new regulations being introduced could alter this position in the future.

However great the draught whistling through ill-fitting doors and windows and the escape of heat through roof spaces, walls and floors, these defects can be remedied and, while the cost of preventing them may seem high at first, the long-term savings in fuel bills will more than compensate for the expenditure.

At its simplest, home heat management need not be particularly expensive and only requires a degree of family discipline. Quite significant savings in heat loss can be achieved by keeping outside doors closed, by using heavy lined and inter-lined curtains and by turning off room heaters when a comfortable level of warmth has been reached.

The majority of new heating systems have time switches and thermostats, and these can be fitted to most unequipped systems.

Hot water cylinders should be insulated and jacks are the most that can be fitted by any reasonably competent handyman.

Accounting as they do for 35 per cent of heat loss, walls are clearly a primary target for insulation. Brick cavity walls should be filled. This is a job that must be carried out by experts who will either use foam or treated mineral wool.

Like so many new home improvement techniques, cavity wall filling has attracted a number of operators who have very limited experience and therefore it is advisable to get quotes from a number of companies. As a result of filling a cavity there is some small risk of water penetration, particularly if the wall is exposed to high winds and rain, or if rubble has been left in the space.

A sound company will give a guarantee against this eventuality, and those companies who do not offer a guarantee should be avoided. Solid brick walls can also be insulated, and this is a job that can be undertaken by a home owner, but a reasonably better left to a builder.

Insulating solid brick walls involves attaching one-inch battens at intervals. The gaps are filled with insulating material, usually treated mineral wool. This is covered by polythene sheathing and the whole enclosed with a plasterboard skin.

The second principal heat leak in the home is the roof. Where there is a sloping roof under slates or tiles, insulation should be laid over the top-floor ceiling. There are a number of materials available—quartz, which are sold in rolls, slabs or loose fill.

For the greatest effect insulation should be laid between the joists, and it must be at least three inches thick. Although the intention is to avoid heat loss, it is equally important to see that the roof space is well ventilated.

Provided it is possible to see the slates or tiles, there is no need to worry on this score; but if the roof is boarded or felted, the top-floor ceiling should be lined with a vinyl-faced wallpaper with the joints overlapping, or it should be painted with two coats of oil paint. This will prevent moisture rising into the roof space. Additional ventilation can be provided by drilling holes in the eaves.

Flat roofs require different treatment. One method is to lay a new roof on the existing one. Three-inch thick slabs of waterproof material, such as foamed or cellular glass or extruded polystyrene are set on the existing roof, then covered with two-ply bituminous felt.

The alternative method is to insulate the ceilings of the top floor using the same system as that employed for solid brick walls.

Floors can be treated in three ways. Cracks between the floor boards can be sealed with plastic wood or a warm wax solution that will set, but both are tedious and time consuming.

Aesthetically, the most pleasing system is to close carpet with a good underlay. Alternatively, the floor can be covered with sheets of hardboard, which will take a good polish.

It is important to make certain that the floor cavity is well ventilated, otherwise dry rot may develop. Sponge plastic stick-on draught excluders will go a long way towards reducing draughts from windows, although

double glazing is now a tried method of cutting heat loss through windows. Metal strip draught excluders are the most efficient means of curbing draught doors, but draught excluders should be used in kitchens or bathrooms, where condensation will cause considerable problems.

The fuel crisis is bringing forward new techniques providing inexpensive heat. There are now boilers on the market that will convert rubbish as well as conventional fuels into heat, but perhaps the most rapid advances are likely to be made in so-called energy.

In this country solar heating is unlikely to replace accepted sources of energy, but solar collectors can be installed as a means of supplementing established systems, and so reducing heating costs.

Clearly, good insulation the best aid to efficient heat management, and it is estimated that for the average home the cost of insulation should be cancelled out by fuel bill savings, within five years of the work being completed.

Government support points the way for district schemes

by Patrick O'Leary

"These are stirring times for district heating," someone in the industry said. Lord Greenwood, president of the District Heating Association, is among those doing the stirring.

He told a press conference early this year. "Studies in the United States and other countries have shown that when district heating is employed there has been a 15 per cent saving in energy requirements." He added that more than 300 schemes were in operation in Britain.

In each scheme a central boilerhouse supplies heating B. J. Bowden foresaw even hot water to a number of

separate buildings. Some use warm air ducts, but most have hot water radiators often individually controlled.

Supporters of the system say it conserves energy by using it efficiently. The central boilers can be fuelled by coal, gas, heavy oil, or even rubbish burnt in incinerators. Plants sometimes use a combination of two or more of these heat sources, while low-grade heating can be obtained from hot water produced as a by-product of the cooling process at power stations.

Delivering the Derek Ezra award lecture in May, Mr Bowden foresaw even more flexibility in the future.

"Should we obtain heat geothermally, or from wind, tide or sun, the heat will probably be most easily distributed by a district heating system," he said.

"When coal is used, it can be burnt in larger plants more effectively than in small individual units. The same argument applies to heavy fuel oil," he added.

It is the size of operations that Britain trails behind other countries, whose inhabitants are more accustomed to central heating. Power stations produce great quantities of surplus hot water, but are usually a long way from towns. Unless large pipes serving thousands of homes can be used, most of the heat is lost in transit.

Until the power crisis the Government attitude to district heating was one of benevolent neutrality, ready to give guidance and help, but not to exert pressure. However, Mr Ronald Reagan, Minister for Housing and Construction, told the Commons in the summer that approved schemes received loans to cover capital costs, and such expenditure was eligible for subsidy.

One obstacle has been that where private houses are mixed with local authority estates, councils have obtained special powers to serve them. Otherwise heat and hot water can be sold only to their own tenants.

Mr Arthur Brown, a leading member of the District Heating Association, had asked the Government to give general district heating

to all local authorities. He hoped these would be included in early legislation.

"Local authorities would be enabled to sell heat to tenants occupying premises not owned by the authority, either domestic, commercial or industrial," he said.

"They would be able to lay or repair district heating mains." In spite of the difficulties, many councils have gone ahead in recent years, and they are getting bigger. At Rowlands Hill, Leicester, the scheme includes 22-storey blocks of flats; at Edmonton Green, North London, a coal-fired system serves home, a swimming pool, shopping centre, and commercial and office buildings.

New towns offer most scope

New and expanding towns offer most scope. At Bretton township, Peterborough, work began three years ago on a comprehensive service. By 1977 4,000 homes, 900 of them privately owned, should be connected. The blocks of flats, obtained on a long-term contract when energy was cheaper.

Rochdale has installed district heating in modernizing council dwellings built in the 1930s. Eventually 5,000 homes will benefit.

Buttersea power station, London, uses waste hot water to warm homes in Pimlico.

Heating worth £500,000 a year will be provided by Bankside station to housing along the Thames.

Nottingham officials are cooperating with the National Coal Board in a project of special interest. Estimated cost is £7m and the scheme will cover some 17,000 premises when completed in 1980. Another feature is that heat is provided in a number of ways.

Incineration of domestic and industrial waste produces steam, which in turn generates electricity. Waste heat from the electricity process, with additional warmth from the refuse and from a coal-fired boiler combine to provide central heating.

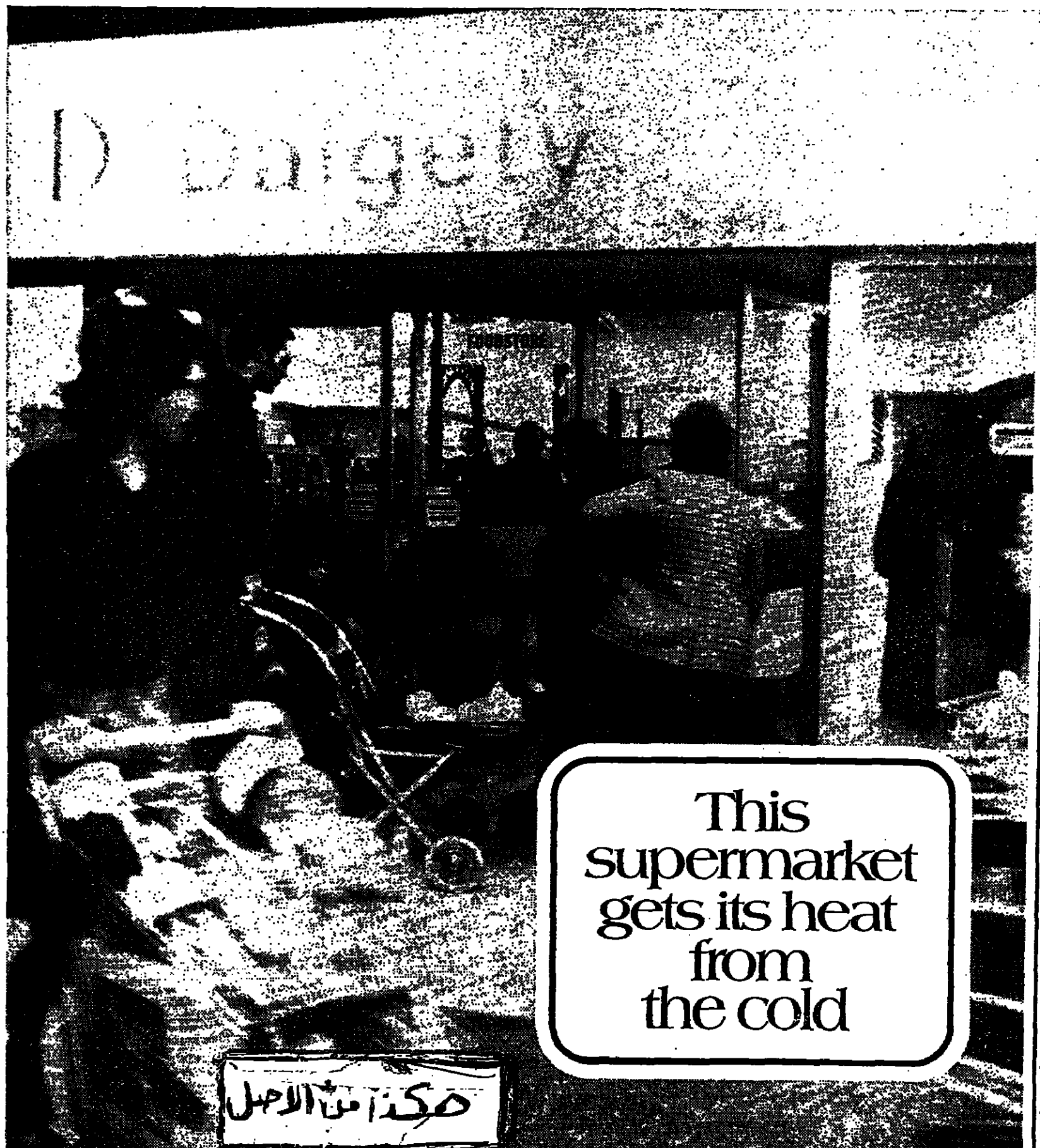
At Lisson Grove, Marylebone, incinerator heating has been carried farther. A pneumatic refuse conveyor takes rubbish along underground pipes from homes to the boilerhouse.

District heating has had teething troubles, and when a system serving 1,000 homes develops a fault, complaints flow freely. To guarantee continuous supply, it is often better to use two or three small boilers than one large one. A large boiler can also be noisy in early stages of a scheme, when it is throttled down to serve a small number of homes.

Nor is it cheap; at Bretton, full central heating and hot water for a three-bedroom terrace house costs £195 a week. But the rising cost of heating by other means affects comparisons.

Price sensitivity also involves controversy over whether each home should be metered and charged for heat and hot water used, or whether the bulk cost should be met entirely by standing charges. Those who oppose metering say it is not always accurate, and involves the expense of meter reading and invoicing. Another argument is that the people most likely to economize on heat are those who need it most, the

elderly and mothers with young children. Meter suppliers retort that tenants will only conserve energy if by doing so the savings money is put into running expenses. Capital costs can be cut if it can be assumed tenants will overload the system. Some councils which initially relied on fixed charge have since installed meters. These, mostly working by evaporation, are attached to radiators and to hot water cylinder pipes. In addition to providing money for district heating the Government has backed experimental work, including some carried out by the Heating and Ventilating Research Association. Local authorities were recently asked to provide information about individual schemes. The Department of the Environment has gone into the business itself. Its Property Services Agency has installed district heating for bungalows and houses occupied by British Service families at Wildenrath, in West Germany's Rhineland. District heating came into the energy conservation study published by the Central Policy Review Staff in July. The wise man came to the predictable conclusion that they do these things better, and faster—abroad, and that there is a very real need for more information in this field. However they did say the four million dwellings could be connected to simple schemes by the end of the millennium. This would be about four or five times the number served at present. The policy review staff thought burning refuse was unlikely to become of major importance in district heat metering. But it has been said that during hyperinflation in Germany 50 years ago it was cheaper to burn marks than coal. If oil and coal prices continue to escalate we may yet feed recycled petrodollars to our boilers.



This supermarket gets its heat from the cold

In this frozen supermarket—the new Dalgety at Langney, Eastbourne—much of the heating to keep the shop at a comfortable 68°F comes from the refrigeration plant. The remainder comes from the lighting and the customers.

a building, through the latest advances in air extraction and distribution. The new Dalgety Supermarket system designed by M. E. C. Bird, Sons & Associates, Consulting Engineers, achieves this by collecting the heat from its lighting and refrigeration plant and distributing it to sales and basement areas, through high-level wall-mounted glass-fibre ducts. Running costs of this system are minimal, no more than the power consumption of the supply fans which average 1 to 2hp.



Heat Recovery This is heat recovery—electricity's ability to re-cycle the heat within

requirements on your building project. They have the knowledge, experience and computer services to give you a balanced appraisal, not just on technical questions, but on the economics, too.

ELECTRICITY IED makes better use of energy

The Electricity Council, England and Wales

Quality of life could be in danger

continued from page III low-sulphur fuels and has contributed indirectly to the tightness of world oil supplies that enabled the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to push up prices.

So far no organization has been prepared to present a value to the community on clean air and water. Without this figure it is impossible for energy producers, under the present system, to earmark capital for fuel quality improvement projects. There is the continual fear that without regulations or a clear indication that the public is prepared to pay for a cleaner environment, the higher quality fuels might not be able to compete in the market place.

Environmental groups have had a number of major successes and have influenced the way in which several important energy projects have been designed and will be managed. The long battle over the Alaskan pipeline produced a system that is vastly superior, from an ecological point of view, to the original proposals made by the oil companies.

But the validity of environmentalist objections is not always so easily recognized. The uncertain safety features of light water reactors in the United States have provoked groups into lengthy delaying actions on individual projects that ultimately hold back the ability of industry to switch to non-polluting electrical power for processing, and affects the future climate for the electric car. Neither of these changes can be achieved without nuclear power.

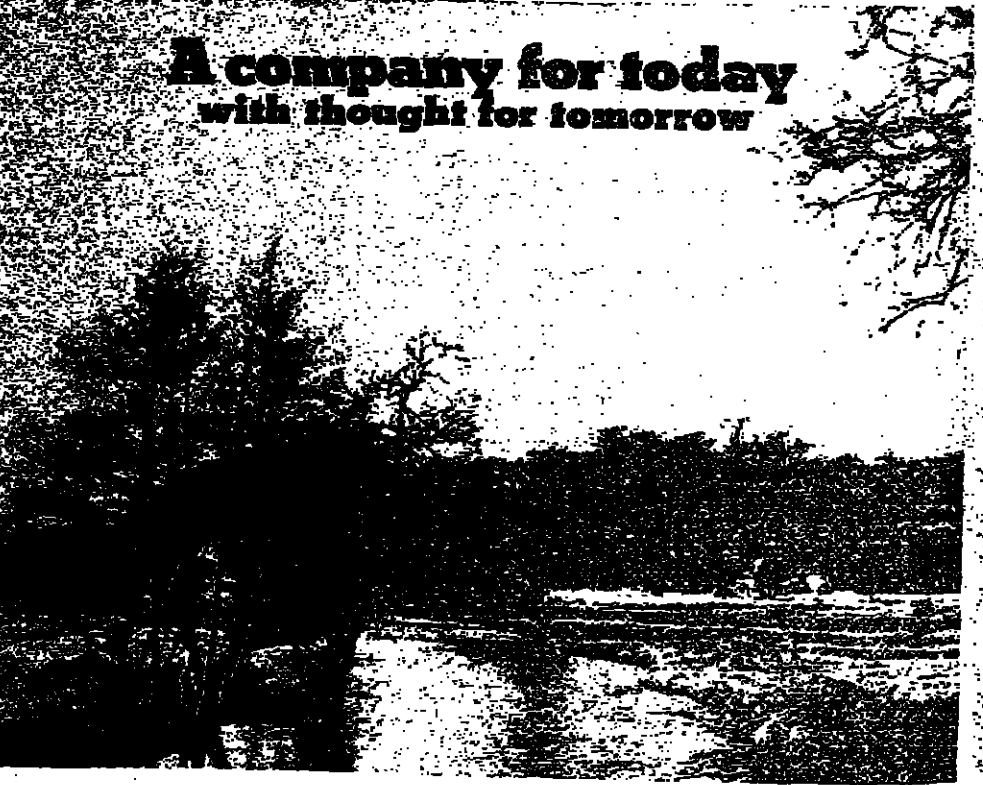
Environmentalists do play a valuable part in focusing attention on the real dangers caused by radioactive waste from power stations. Plutonium, one of the waste products, has a half life of 200,000 years.

The greatest test of man's willingness to destroy the environment in order to maintain his present way of life could come with plans for the development of shale oil in America. Leaking oil from shale rock leaves a residue of powdery waste that is greater in volume than the original shale rock.

An American Government report admits that unlocking the massive shale oil

reserves of the Rocky Mountains could leave serious scars on the environment. It now remains to be seen whether the United States values shale oil more highly than the rather dull and barren landscape of the foothills of the Rockies.

R.V.



A company for today with thought for tomorrow

energy environment Whether we produce our energy from oil, gas or coal... The products involved range from wellhead equipment and valves to gauges, plastic pipes and deaeration plants. Products from the Pegler Hattersley Group can be found in every market sector—Send for a Group Profile

Pegler Hattersley The Pegler Hattersley Group St. Catherine's Avenue, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN4 4JH